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STATE DOCUMENTS

MONTANA
FARM LABOR REPORT
1969

MONTANA
STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

affiliated with
UNITED STATES
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Photo Credit - Sidney Herald

out for a break during fall round-up time in Sidney local office area. (Marlboro Country)

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PREPARED BY

BEN G. EVANS
CHIEF OF FARM PLACEMENT

FARM LABOR SECTION
OF THE
MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

JESS C. FLETCHER, DIRECTOR

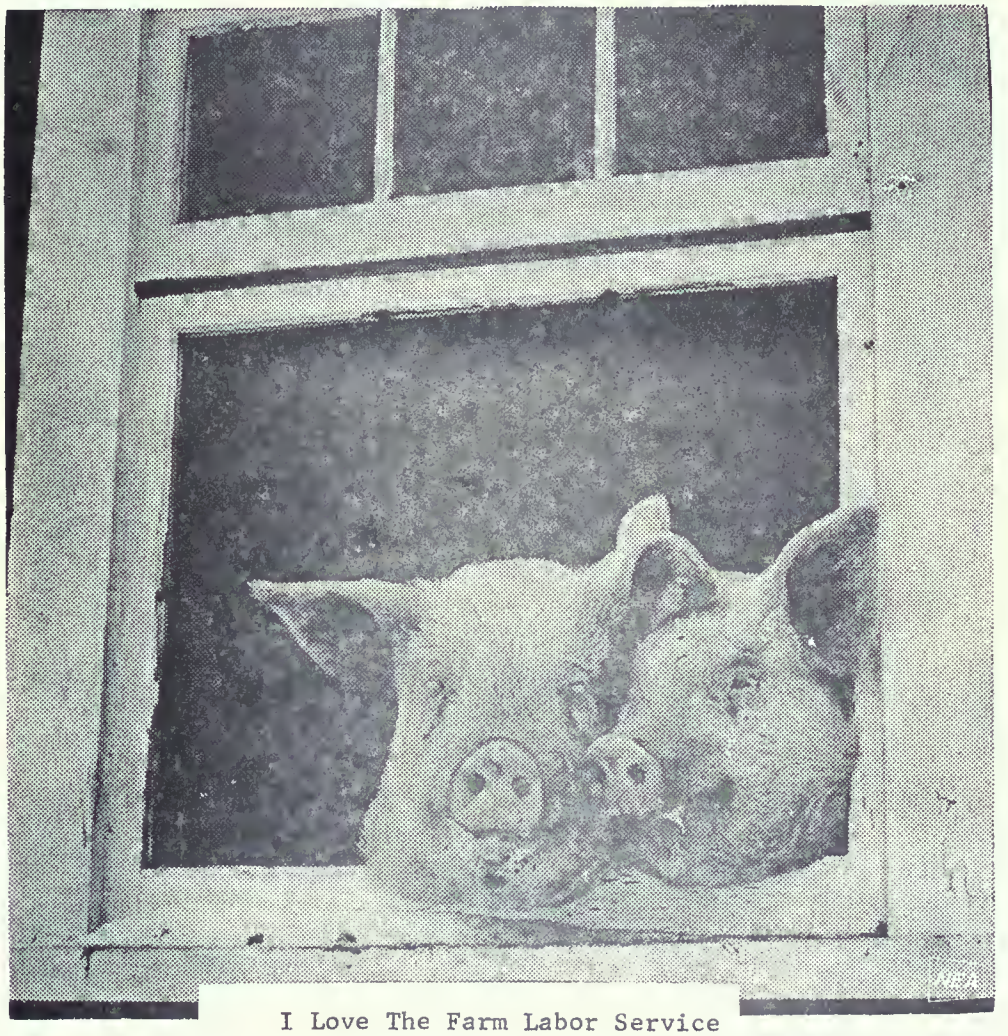
A DIVISION OF THE EMPLOYMENT
SECURITY COMMISSION OF MONTANA

GORDON R. BENNETT, CHAIRMAN
JAMES J. FLAHERTY, COMMISSIONER
WALTER H. MCLEOD, COMMISSIONER

NORTH CENTRAL MONTANA

Farm and Ranch News

"PRESERVE AMERICA'S WEALTH . . .
PRACTICE SOIL CONSERVATION"

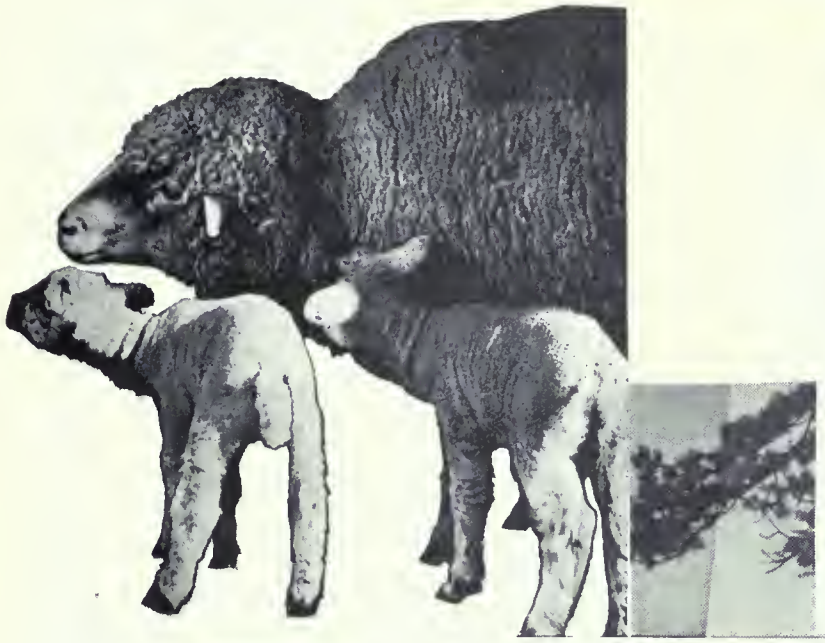


I Love The Farm Labor Service
Don't You?

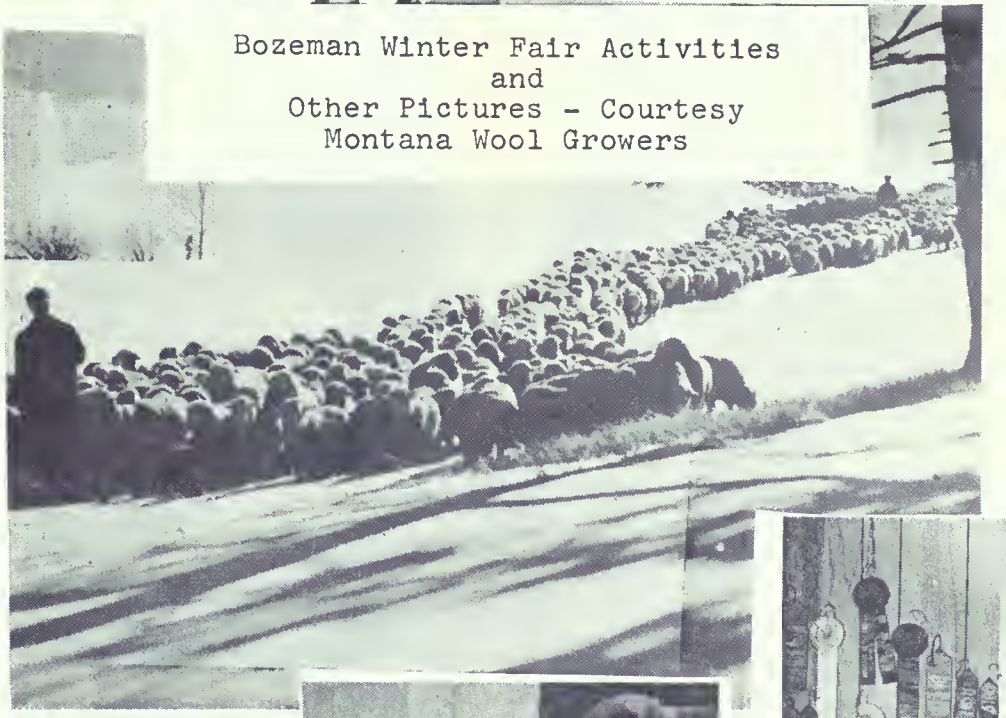
Photo Credits
Sidney Herald

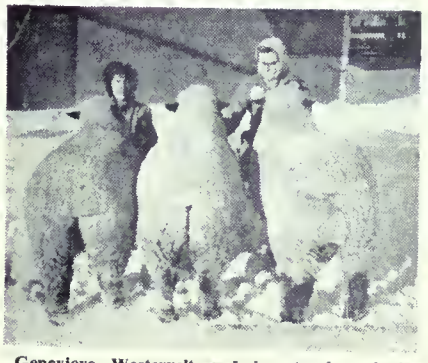
Big tractors and airplanes all part of the modern day ranch.
Below - Local feeder making use of commercial feed service.

Sidney L.C.
Area



Bozeman Winter Fair Activities and Other Pictures - Courtesy Montana Wool Growers





Genevieve Westervelt and her trophy winning Hampshire "Get of Sire."

Marilee Morgan's Grand Champion Hampshire Ram and HIS "Get of Awards" at the 1969 Winter Fair.

Bertha Nugent, Kalispell, with the ribbons and trophies won at the 1969 Montana Winter Fair by her Columbia sheep.

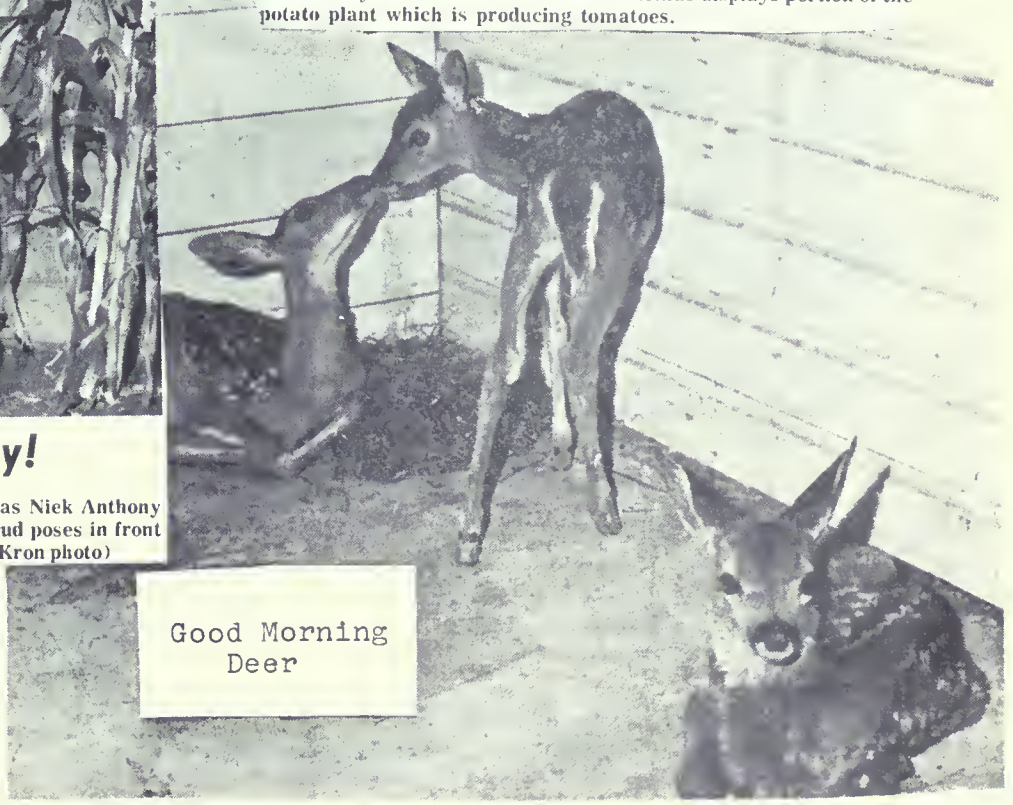
Courtesy
Miles City Star

Crazy mixed up spud plant

A potato plant with potatoes under the ground and tomatoes on top of the plant is growing in the garden of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Thomas at 1005 North 2nd. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are from Beulah, N.D., but spend their summers with their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Walby of the Beacon Cafe. Mrs. Thomas displays portion of the potato plant which is producing tomatoes.

Tall corn, short boy!

How tall my corn grows! And it looks even taller as Nick Anthony Senrud, two-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Senrud poses in front of it at the Kinsey Fair Thursday morning — (Mark Kron photo)



Good Morning
Deer

THESE CATTLE WERE FORTUNATE to have been pastured near highway just south of Rollins. It was comparatively little problem. Again the snow produced quite a dramatic picture — picture this, if you will, in color. Pasture was completely white, barn a rustic red, fog was swirling a murky gray, almost black, as the afternoon sun shone on it Monday of last week. (Courier photo)

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Part I. ANNUAL SUMMARY

PLANNING

A. Changes in Administrative Organization:

Some changes were made in administrative organization during the 1969 season to the effect that rural manpower concepts were incorporated into the farm labor programs. FPR's were assigned non-agricultural contacts and duties to conform with the present rural programs. This could not be an extensive change due to lack of finances for an overall rural program. The overall mechanical administrative structure remains the same. More attention is to be given rural areas.

B. Pre-Season and In-Season Meetings:

State and local office Farm Placement personnel participated and cooperated with growers and processors throughout the season and attended meetings whenever and wherever things could be accomplished.

Farm Placement personnel, as heretofore, continued to work throughout the year with county and state Extension Services, Montana State Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stablization and Conservation County Committees and other farm organizations.

C. Special Arrangements for Recruitment are made in Cooperation with other Government Agencies in Other States.

Orders for sugar beet workers were placed in clearance with the state of Texas. In accordance with an agreement of several years, the Colorado Agency recruited workers in Texas for the Holly Sugar Co. in Montana. Several crews were obtained from Oklahoma and a few Navajos from Arizona.

A special program for youths was continued over the previous year in sugar beet activity. Average earnings were greater this year. The program was successful with few problems developing. The program is active in agricultural reporting area 9-27-02.

Fewer Indians from local areas were recruited for the potato harvests due to mechanization. Youths were recruited extensively for hay and grain harvests. Sugar beet labor activity was reduced considerably in area 9-27-01 again this year due to loss of sugar factory the last three seasons.

ECONOMIC TRENDS

Major changes in the agricultural economy which had an impact on employment were, first of all, a dry June and wet July which resulted in juggled scheduling of help. All areas received sufficient moisture and late summer was hotter than expected thus speeding grain and hay harvests. Turnover in the small youth beet program was normal, weed-acides were a great help. Crop planting was reduced for winter wheat. Excellent weather was a boon to harvests this year. Stock was returned to winter ranges under above average conditions. Yields on hay and grain were excellent except in a few areas. The general harvest of all crops was excellent in spite of an early freeze. Tonnage was better than expected on sugar beets. Labor was more than adequate for the beet harvest with a good influx of Texas Mexicans. A few shortages developed but were insignificant.

Due to a normal harvest season, hired workers were sufficient for the work force. The largest demands were in wheat, other small grains and hay harvests. Beet thinning and pulling of weeds was normal. Harvests were earlier than the previous year. Beet and potato harvests had no delays. No potatoes were damaged by frost and some areas noted an increase in farm employment and wages and mechanical improvements. Adverse weather caused very little schedule changes on labor which resulted in late season shortages. Community programs were not needed to help the harvest.

Hay and harvest hands were in demand but also were amply taken care of by recruitment. It was a good year in farm employment much as it was the previous year. However, a small decline of demands was noted throughout the state and increased use of large machinery was evident.

There was no major changes in land utilization in 1969 brought about by participation in production and acreage control programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, nor has expansion of urban development into rural areas caused large significant changes. Farms were decreasing and getting larger. An influx of rural to urban continued. An unexpected influx of labor from other states helped the Montana labor supply.

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

A. Seasonal Hired Farm Workers

Local labor is generally male and operates machinery such as tractors, hay balers, trucks and small grain combines. They also perform non-agricultural work, as heavy equipment operators, truck drivers, and construction labor.

Female work as ranch couples or single as ranch cook. Non-agricultural employment is generally as cook in a cafe or domestic work. In western Montana, housewives work in the small fruit and berry harvests. There is an increased demand for female truck drivers during the sugar beet harvest.

Some high school youths of both sexes are recruited to hoe and thin sugar beets. Approximately 7,500 interstate male workers are employed in agricultural activities of small grains, haying and livestock activities. They are single or unattached. These workers are mostly from California, Idaho, Minnesota, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming and Colorado. They also perform non-agricultural work as truck drivers and construction laborers.

Approximately 3,500 interstate workers are employed in the hoeing and thinning of sugar beets. These workers are primarily family groups, and both sexes 14 years and older work. Their main occupation is that of a vegetable farm laborer. The majority of these workers are from Texas and are of Mexican descent.

The most significant shortages of seasonal farm workers were for the spring seeding, late hay harvest and seeding. Domestic workers who were available for this activity were from surrounding states.

There was no significant shortage of seasonal farm workers. The influx was up; some shortages existed at times especially during the fall harvest and spring soil preparation.

No professional cherry pickers were recruited for Polson or Kalispell due to a 90% loss of crop by frost.

B. Regular Hired Farm Workers

The livestock and dry land small grain activities are the major crops that employ regular hired farm workers. The general trend of employment for 1969 was equal to previous years. Generally, wet weather resulted in delayed agricultural activities and some setbacks in a few areas.

Mechanization is having its inroads and does decrease needs in some activities, such as mechanized feed lots, hay and potato harvests, etc. However, better farming methods and scientific know-how is producing more from acreages. Reclaimed land and increased acreages were evident.

Dry land and small grain farms continue to increase in size with the result that more farm machinery is being used. This is true especially in the eastern part of the state. Small acreages persist in western Montana. Many of the larger farms are maintaining large equipment and repair sheds, thus creating demands for skilled mechanical help and heavy machinery operators. There is a constant demand for good skilled operators.

IMPACT OF MECHANIZATION AND OTHER CHANGES IN PRODUCTION METHODS

A. The growing, care and processing of sugar beets has been considered the main crop mechanized to the most significant degree in recent years. The harvest as heretofore mentioned in the previous report is about 100 percent mechanized, and thinning around 70 percent. Considerable care in the planting of the seeds is important for the subsequent use of mechanical thinners. Seeds of the monogerm type must be placed in the ground at a pre-determined depth and interval of space. The size of the beet seed and cells of the plate in the planter must match. The equipment is simple in construction and does not require specialized knowledge to repair. During this season machines were used that would top six rows of sugar beets and dig three rows at a time thus contributing to a shorter harvest season and less labor.

1. Machines being used are hay harvesters which require but one person to operate. Potato harvesters are operated at times by family members. Bean harvesters have eliminated labor in the state. Large mechnical equipment is being used for soil preparation, seeding and summer fallowing. Mechanical corn pickers eliminated labor several years ago. Mechnical beet thinners and weedacides have made great strides in sugar beet operations. Feeding of cattle is getting more mechanized through the feed lot process. Mechanical grain harvesting is getting more efficient.

2. Skilled machine operators and repairman are in demand. There is a shortage of such workers, although some are being trained. The general influx of workers into the state contain very few skilled workers. There should be some way of training migrants prior to the migration. Although there is a seasonable demand for such workers, a displaced worker trained as such would not be guaranteed year around work.

3. Labor requirements resulting from mechanization this past season caused some demand, especially in the spring and fall, but demands for unskilled labor decreased from previous years. Mechanization has shortened the term of seasonal employment when weather conditions were normal.

4. Trends are toward getting employers organized to compete for labor, although this is slow. There is still an influx of farm labor into other fields of endeavor due to better incentives. Some employers recognize the changes needed but not enough yet. Technological changes will force changes in the agriculture labor market similar to the non-agricultural.

B. Improved seeding in sugar beets is making the thinning process less laborious all the time. Weedacides are eliminating labor to a great extent. Workers are moving through row crops faster than previously.

RECRUITMENT AND UTILIZATION OF FARM WORKERS

A. Radio, television, newspaper publicity, letters, and posters were utilized by the local offices to obtain the maximum supply of local seasonal farm workers. Excellent results were obtained.

One local office conducted school registrations to recruit youth for work in sugar beets. During 1970 this technique and program will be used in one beet area office; but plans are being formulated to streamline the program and eliminate, as far as possible any problems.

Volunteer Farm Placement Representatives were used in most local office areas. Where possible, VFPR's made placement from local sources or transmitted unfilled orders to local offices for action. Farmers and ranchers were advised of their local VFPR through local newspapers, radio, posters, and by direct promotional mail from the local offices. While all VFPR's were not 100 percent effective, it is planned to continue this activity in 1970 with possibilities of Rural Representatives being added.

As the local skilled labor supply was not sufficient to meet the demand for regular hired farm workers. Inter-office clearance was used for some occupations.

B. Montana Participated in the Annual Worker Plan

As an order-holding state, Montana received scheduled crews and family heads in response to inter-state orders for 2300 workers from Texas for the beet fields. Bulletins to California, Oregon, Washington and Idaho usually result in sufficient migration from west coast cherry orchards to fill the needs of the 750 pickers needed in Montana cherry orchards, when crop conditions are normal. No problems were involved relating to transportation, wages, housing, food, etc. as very few pickers came in due to a 10% cherry crop.

C. Numerous inspections were made. These were directly related to interstate recruitment. When inspections are made prior to occupancy, and until domestic recruitment is completed, it is not possible to determine whether housing will be occupied by domestic families or groups of single workers. All housing is basically family type, on farm, necessitating a dual determination of suitability.

All agency inspections are made as a part of the regular program of field visiting. About 1,350 housing units are occupied at some time during the eight-week period that migratory labor is employed in large numbers.

State housing regulations are under the administration of the State Board of Health, Division of Environmental Sanitation. That agency limits participation in inspection, but the Department is ready to investigate complaints and does test water sources.

No difficulties have been encountered in arranging cooperation. There has not been any instance when, after attempts to secure improvement or unsatisfactory housing by other means, the State Board of Health has not taken appropriate action. Employers who did not conform to housing regulations will be denied recruitment of workers unless housing meets requirements prior to time of recruitment.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER COMMUNITY PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

The local Farm Placement Representatives are working with rural development programs and are continuing special surveys of manpower resources, underemployment and unemployment in rural areas. They are gathering routine employment security data to be used in economic base reports and plans for rural development. However, such activities are limited from lack of personnel, equipment and finances. Therefore, only a token of rural development programs can be carried out due to the amount of travel involved and due to the fact that the greater emphasis and finances are going into urban programs. The migration influx continues from the rural areas to the urban areas. We are cooperating with all committees, community groups, state or Federal organizations to remedy the rural problems. Our agency pushes ideas to unite farmers and ranchers to helping solve their labor problems. So far, employers are not organized toward promoting central labor camps, etc.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

State and local office personnel participated in farm organization meetings, Chamber of Commerce, civic groups and public schools to strengthen public understanding of the Agency's Farm and rural Placement Program. Generally, the method is round table or informal discussion from the floor.

Newspaper, radio and television is used to disseminate farm labor market information. All local offices regularly prepare news releases designed for listener and readers appeal. Thousands of farm and harvest bulletins are mailed each year.

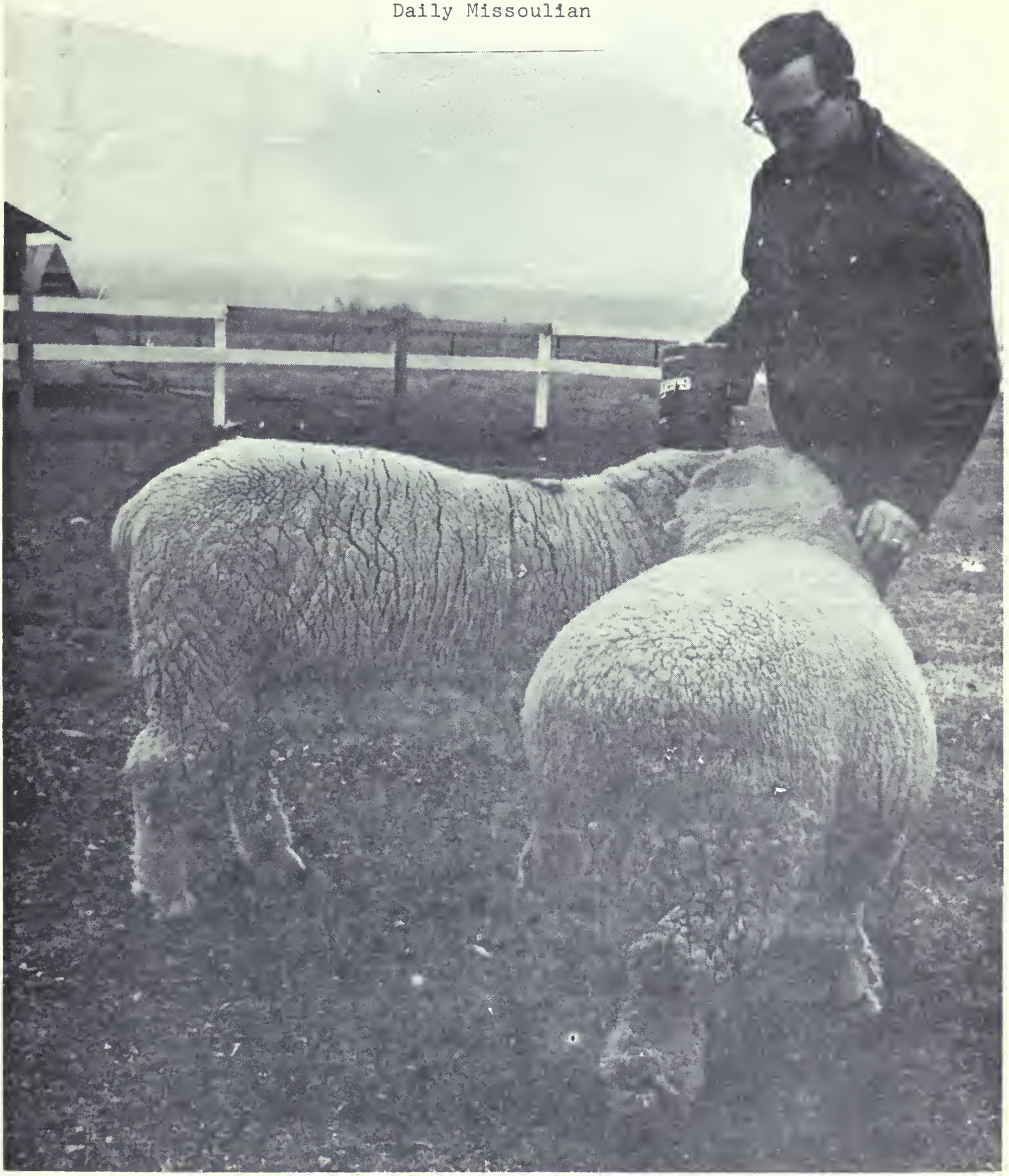
EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Placement totals decreased slightly under the preceding year. Weather, growing and harvesting conditions varied. This decrease was due to mechanization. The cherry crop was frozen out in Polson and Kalispell. Activities, especially in livestock, grain farming, and haying were equal to the previous year. This was a good harvest year. The "Youth in Sugar Beet Program was minimized due to a good supply of domestic

workers from Texas. Domestic workers were plentiful and considered very good help by most employers except during the spring and fall periods.

Every effort will be made to fully utilize local sources of labor, particularly in counties eligible under the Public Works and Economic Development Act. We would like to see some means of training transients at their source so that there will be more skilled workers among the transients who migrate to Montana each year.

Courtesy
Daily Missoulian



THE RAINS FINALLY STOPPED and now the work gets under way in the hayfields around the valley. The scene is the Bill Hall place north of Pablo. Stackers are Norm Starkel and Everett Hall. (Larry Anderson photo)

COMBINES ARE CHURNING THEIR WAY through fields of grain all over the valley as the long stretch of dry weather has brought most fields to maturity. Ray Rung, Ronan, has harvested about 25 bushels per acre of winter wheat off this field south of Polson. Rung said frost had dam-

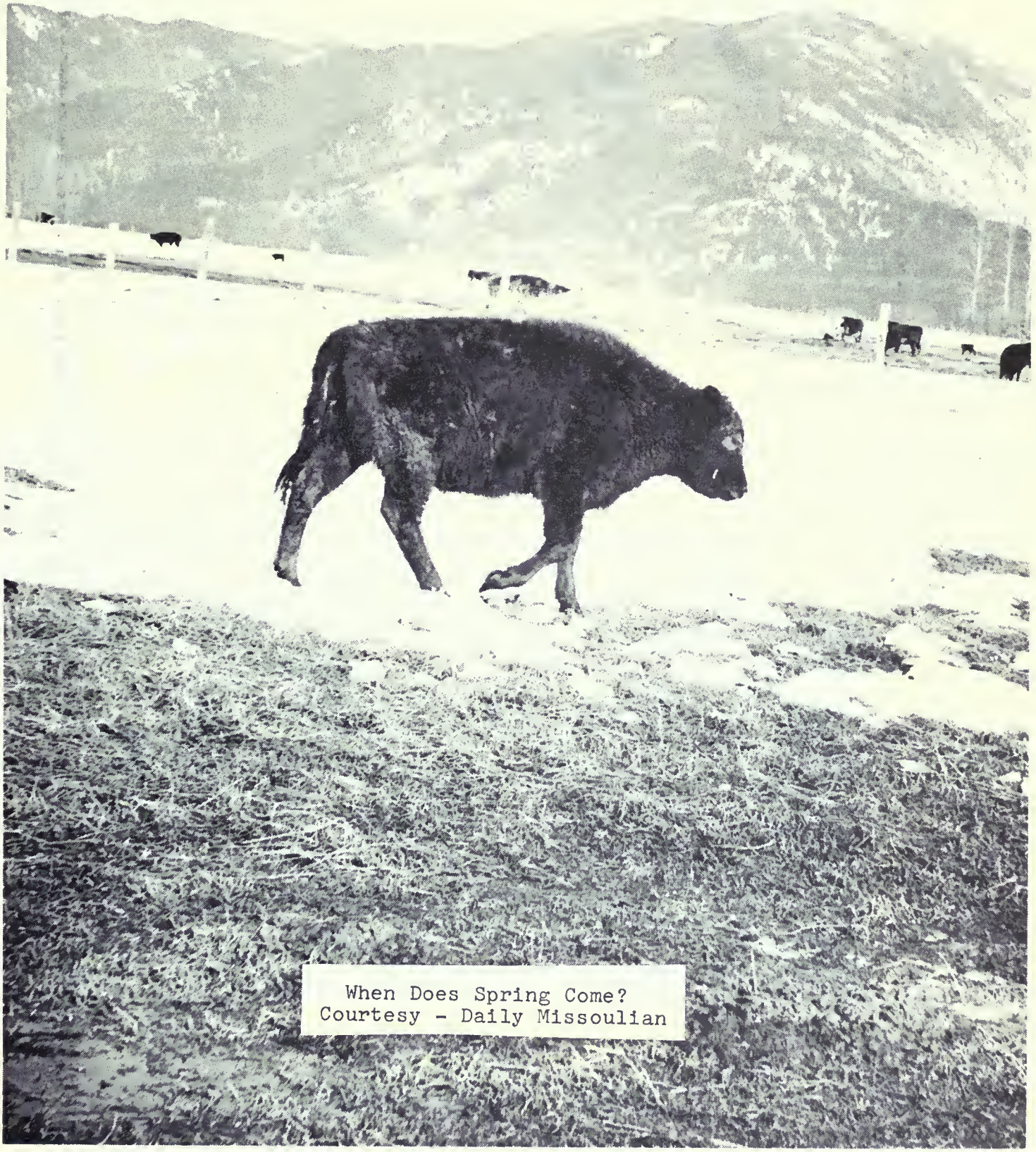
Courtesy
Flathead Courier

COSTUMES of the older dancers seemed less spectacular but somehow more authentic and their dancing was much the same. They retain many full body movements while younger dancers stick mainly to footwork.

FEMALES DIDN'T RIDE THE WARPATH in olden days, and some reservation residents can remember when they didn't dance either, but customs have a tendency to change with the times. It is a good opportunity for the girls to show off their beadwork, and show their interest in the ways of their ancestors. (Larry Anderson Photos)

EXPRESSING HERSELF artistically is 10-year-old Alameida Addison of the Flathead Reservation, Dixon, Montana, during experimental art class recently conducted at Blue Bay Lodge on Flathead Lake, north of Missoula, Montana. Classes included 26 Indian children and students from the Reservation who were instructed in drawing and painting by Michele de Santene, a self-taught French Impressionist painter. A two-week exhibit of camp projects will be at the First National Bank in Missoula beginning Thursday (Aug. 21). (Chet Dreher photo)

A Sackful of Something
- and Real Nice Company
Courtesy - Daily Missoulian



When Does Spring Come?
Courtesy - Daily Missoulian

THE RIVER PRESS

Fort Benton, Montana, August 13, 1969

Need Hay Stacked?

According to recent surveys made in Chouteau county, indications are that there are a considerable number of hay and grain bales to be stacked. Representatives of the Montana state employment service presently operating a temporary harvest office at 1408 Front Street in the Pastime, say that a number of hand crews are available. In addition to those, there are also hay stacking contractors with their own equipment. Getting this work done now will not only conserve the quality of the hay, but also will complete this phase of work before fall activities begin.

Farmers and ranchers who are considering use of outside help to complete this work are urged to contact the office here or phone 622-3715.

Harvest Office Closed

Although the temporary harvest office at 1408 Front Street closed on August 22 due to virtual completion of small grains harvest, the demand for farm help is expected to continue.

During the latter part of this month and the first part of September demand for tractor operators to prepare ground and seed winter wheat is expected to run high. Due to delays in other portions of the north central section of the state in completion of harvest, the supply of tractor operators for Chouteau county is expected to be at a minimum.

Bill Cady, manager of the state employment office in Great Falls, says that farmers and ranchers requiring additional help for fall work should contact the Great Falls office at 1000 1st Avenue South, or by calling 453-0351. Their orders will be given the same consideration as was given by the temporary office at Fort Benton.

44 More to Go

Darwin Lennington of Fort Benton greets a new arrival — with mom's permission, of course — on his ranch about five miles west of Fort Benton. Lennington said he had about 45 out of 190 cows which have yet to go through the annual spring rite of calving. Lennington farms about 2,000 acres and runs 240 head of cattle. (Staff Photo) Great Falls Tribune

PART II

OUTLOOK FOR COMING YEAR

STATE FORECAST

The outlook on agricultural employment for Montana in 1970 is that employment is expected to be slightly under 1969 pending satisfactory weather conditions. However, since 1969 was a good year, it could be that with more mechanization employment will decline perhaps to the extent of several hundred workers. Should moisture be sufficient, employment may not change to a significant extent. With usual winter conditions, the later part of the year some pickup should occur in feeding operations. Reduced grain and beet acreage will have an effect.

AREA FORECAST

AREA 9-28-01

Western Fruit and Sugar Beets

Agricultural Reporting Area 9-28-01, Western Fruit and Sugar Beet (Flathead Lake, Missoula, Ravalli, Granite, Powell, Lewis and Clark, Jefferson, Broadwater, and Meagher Counties).

The farm labor outlook for the coming year should be slightly down from 1969 provided weather conditions are favorable. Local and migratory labor should be available for all activities. Sugar beet acreage will remain on a reduced basis since this is no longer considered a primary sugar beet area. A normal cherry crop is expected with hopes of no frost damage destruction as was experienced in 1969. The 1969 crop was down 90% due to frost.

The crop activities and approximate time periods involved are:

Crop Activities	Period Involved
Soil preparation and seeding	April-May
Sugar beet thinning, hoeing, weeding	May-August
Haying	June-September
Irrigating	May-August
Small fruit harvest	July-August
Small grain harvest	August
Potato harvest	September
Sugar beet harvest	September-October
Livestock seasonal activities	January-December

AREA 9-28-02

Southern Sugar Beets

Agricultural Reporting Area 9-28-02, Southern Sugar Beet (Golden Valley, Musselshell, Stillwater, Yellowstone, Treasure, Carbon, and Big Horn Counties).

Again the weather will be the deciding factor. It is expected labor requirements will be under those of 1969. The supply and demand for labor in irrigated activities will be approximately the same as last year. Local and migratory labor is expected to meet demands in all activities including sugar beets. A portion of the demand will be met through youth groups in the thinning, hoeing and weeding of sugar beets. Migrant domestic workers will be available for other states following the completion of thinning and hoeing of sugar beets in July. Sugar beet acreage will be decreased in this area.

The activities and approximate time periods involved:

Crop Activities	Periods Involved
Spring soil preparation and seeding	April-May
Sugar beet thinning, hoeing, weeding	May 15-July 31
Haying	June-August
Fallowing	June-September
Small grain harvest	July-August
Sweet corn harvest	August 15-Sept. 15
Field corn harvest	August
Sugar beet harvest	September-October
Livestock seasonal activities	January-December

AREA 9-28-03

Lower Yellowstone Beet and Grain

Agricultural Reporting Area 9-28-03, Lower Yellowstone Beet and Grain (Garfield, McCone, Richland, Dawson, Prairie, Wibaux, Rosebud, Custer, Fallon, Powder River, and Carter Counties).

Should moisture content repeat that of 1969, employment requirements should be the same except there could be some adjustment on sugar beet acreages. In irrigated areas there is little anticipated change. Local and migratory labor should be available for all activities including sugar beets. Demands could be less due to the success of weedacides and mechanization.

The crop activities and approximate time periods involved are:

Crop Activities	Periods Involved
Spring soil preparation and seeding	April-May
Sugar beet thinning, hoeing, weeding	May-July
Haying	June-August
Irrigation	June-September
Fallowing	May-August
Small grain harvest	July-August
Sugar beet harvest	September-October
Livestock seasonal activities	January-December

AREA 9-28-04

Triangle and Highline Hardwheat

Agricultural Reporting Area 9-28-04, Triangle and Highline Hard Wheat (Teton, Choteau, Cascade, Judith Basin, Hill, Blaine, Phillips, Valley, Daniels, Roosevelt, and Sheridan Counties).

This is primarily a dry land wheat growing and livestock area. Should sufficient moisture be received in 1969, the labor requirements may repeat. However, a dry year could make a difference. It is anticipated that local workers and voluntary in-migration of interstate workers will satisfy all demands for this area's activities.

Sugar beet acreage and the demand for labor will be down from 1969.

Crop Activities	Periods Involved
Spring soil preparation and seeding	April-May
Sugar beet thinning and hoeing	May-June
Haying	June-August
Irrigation	June-August
Small grain harvest	July-August
Fallowing	May-September
Sugar beet harvest	October
Livestock seasonal activities	January-December

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Employment Security
ES-225 Table I (R-10/68)

STATE: MONTANA

CALENDAR YEAR REPORTED: 1969

SELECTED DATA ON FARM PLACEMENT OPERATIONS

ITEM	NUMBER
SECTION A. DAY-HAUL ACTIVITIES AT POINTS OPERATED BY STATE AGENCY	
1. Town with day-haul points	None
2. Number of day-haul points	None
3. Sum of days day-haul points operated during year	None
4. Total number of workers transported during year	None
SECTION B. SELECTED SERVICES TO SCHOOL-AGE WORKERS (under 22 years)	
5. Supervised camps operated for school-age farm workers	None
a. Placements in camps	None
6. Placements of school-age workers in supervised live-in farm homes	None
SECTION C. SERVICES TO INDIANS LIVING ON RESERVATIONS	
7. Rendered by on-reservation local offices or at itinerant points	
a. Farm placements	551
b. Applicant-holding acceptances	28
8. Other farm placements of reservation Indians	872
SECTION D. OTHER SELECTED DATA	
9. Number of local offices which held farm clinics	None
10. Sum of days on which farm clinics were held	None
11. Total number of local offices participating in formal community service programs	4
12. Peak number of volunteer farm placement representatives	133

SIGNATURE
Jess C. Fletcher

TITLE
Director,
Montana State Employment Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Employment Security
ES-225 Table 2 (R-10/68)

STATE: MONTANA

CALENDAR YEAR REPORTED: 1969

COMPOSITION OF INTERSTATE FARM MIGRANT GROUPS

SECTION A. MIGRANT GROUP CONTACTS			SECTION B. REPORTING STATE'S RESIDENTS		SECTION C. GROUP'S WORKING IN REPORTING STATE	
I TYPE	II BY REPORTING STATE	III REPORTING STATES RES.	I TYPE	II NUMBER	I TYPE	II NUMBER
1. Total	393		2. Total Persons		4. Families	533
a. Crew leaders	50		3. Total Workers		5. Unattached Males	156
b. Family heads	331		XXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	6. Unattached Females	12
c. Other	12		XXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXX

SECTION D. COMMENTS

There were no transportation problems encountered.

Housing was generally very good with some exceptions.

Re-inspections are to be made on those not up to standard prior to the recruitment clearance order.

SIGNATURE	TITLE
Jess C. Fletcher	Director, Montana State Employment Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Employment Security
Form ES-225 Table 3 (R-10/68)

STATE: MONTANA

CALENDAR YEAR REPORTED: 1969

INTERSTATE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES

ITEM	ORDERS		OPENINGS	
	EXTENDED (Sec.A) RECEIVED (Sec.B)	FILLED	EXTENDED (Sec.A) RECEIVED (Sec.B)	FILLED
I	II	III	IV	V
SECTION A. REPORTING STATE AS ORDER-HOLDING STATE				
1. Reporting State, TOTAL →	5	4	2194	2195
2. Applicant-holding States involved:				
Florida	1	0	1	0
Texas	1	1	15	15
Texas	1	1	8	8
Texas-Colorado	1	1	1200	1200
Texas-Colorado	1	1	971	971
SECTION B. REPORTING STATE AS APPLICANT-HOLDING STATE				
3. Reporting State, TOTAL →	48	2	4040	548
4. Order-holding States involved:				
California				6
Colorado	1	0	2000	40
Idaho	2	0	11	0
Illinois				24
Iowa	1	0	1	0
Michigan	3	0	27	13
Minnesota	1	0	1	0
Nebraska	1	0	1	0
North Dakota	3	1	11	1
Ohio				13
Oregon				23
South Dakota	4	0	5	0
Utah	5	0	256	0
Washington				35
Wisconsin	3	0	1650	391
Wyoming	24	1	77	2
SECTION C. COMMENTS				

Sugar beet worker referrals which were accepted by other states are included, some of which did not have formal clearance orders extended to Montana.

SIGNATURE: Jess C. Fletcher

TITLE: Director, Montana State Employment Service

Courtesy
Flathead Courier

YOUNGER GENERATION starts dancing at the age four or so. It doesn't look likely that the traditional songs and dances will soon die out with the little ones participating like they are now.

INDIAN DAYS CELEBRATION at Arlee brought colorful dancers from all over the Northwest. Some to compete for prize money and others just to enjoy the traditions of the war dances. The steady throb of the tomtom, ringing of the bells and chanting of the singers weaves a spell which capture dancers and spectators alike at the Arlee Pow Wow grounds.

Lady runs country's only mootel

TUCSON, Ariz (AP) — Mrs. Dixie Parten operates a mootel.

That's a place where cattle and their drivers stop overnight on their way to some other part of the country.

There may be other women operating cattle rests, but Mrs. Parten hasn't heard of them. Ordinary motel owners couldn't imagine putting up as many as 3,000 guests a night at no charge and still making a profit.

Mrs. Parten - a 150-pound brunette - operates the Buckaroo Cattle Rest just off Interstate 10, south of Tucson.

The men who drive the cattle say it is one of the most modern operations of its kind in the country.

Trucks, some of them doubledeckers, roll in day or night. They average two drivers and about 100 head of cattle apiece. Often there will be from 200 to 220 head, but these are calves.

The whole works stay overnight for a service charge of $7.50 a night per truck. That includes a bunk house with clean linen and showers for the drivers, and a separate pen for each load of cattle.

"We make our profit on the hay - $3 a bale," explains Mrs. Parten.

The Buckaroo has a new loading chute so trucks can load and unload both decks without moving. When the trucks don't back up to the chutes exactly right, a calf or steer will scamper for freedom.

"Then we'll go out and rope them if we have to. Sure, I can rope.

"This is pretty wide open country. We have a few water holes around. Generally we wait awhile, go out and pick them up at a hole. I've been running the Buckaroo for some years now, and we haven't lost a head of cattle yet.

"These cattle rests are really a health measure for the cattle," she says. "It is important that they get out of the crowded trucks and get some exercise. Of course, the first thing they do is lie down. But I'd do that too if I'd been standing as long as they have.

"Most of our trucks are going from Texas to California. We seldom get Arizona cattle because they are still fresh when they pass our way."

The Buckaroo can accommodate 20 truck loads, or about 3,000 head of cattle at a time. Generally the drivers unload, shower, eat, sleep for six or seven hours while the cattle are resting and being fed, load up again and resume their trip in about eight hours.

Dixie doesn't pretend to be a veterinarian, but if a calf needs a simple shot, she gives it.

As a matter of fact, she does most things that need doing.

"About five years ago my husband, Hayes, suffered a serious leg injury. I needed a job that would let me have necessary time at home. I've been around cattle all my life and like them. So when this opportunity came along, I took it," she says.

"She does the job all right," says Hayes Parten. "She comes from a long line of Texas cow punchers name of Cox down Odessa way."

"We have no big problems," comments Dixie. "Everyone is our friend. The drivers are a well behaved bunch. Sometimes one is a little tired and contrary, but who isn't once in a while?

"I'm doing what I like to do, or I guess I wouldn't be doing it."

Mrs. Dixie Parten, the country's only mootel operator puts up as many as 3,000 head of cattle per night. — (AP Photo)

Courtesy
Miles City Star

Oops!

Old Blaze Nose has just decided that his rider forgot the Right Guard this day and there's no excuse for such thoughtlessness. So it's back to the hard, cold deck, Cowboy, and plan for next year's Bucking Horse Auction at Old Miles City. (Mark Kron Photo)

Photo Credit
Sidney Herald

Sidney L.O. Area

Feeding Operations

Photo Credit - Sidney Herald

Sidney product, the Linton dune buggy is used extensively as a mechanical saddle horse.

Migrant children enjoy summer school

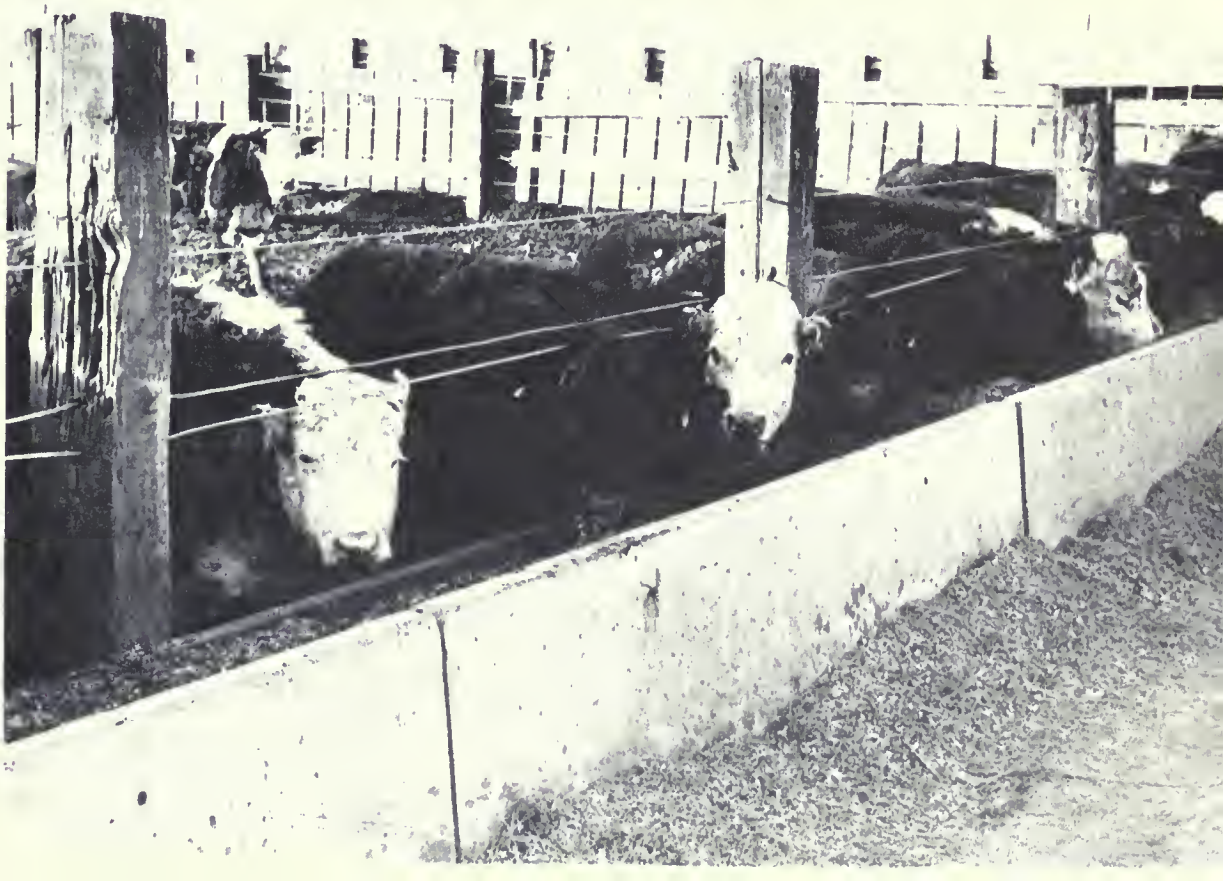
Courtesy
Miles City Star

Teacher Helen Jones and Assistant Bruce Bender help children with finger painting lessons.

Photo Credits
Sidney Herald

Above - Beet tops are chopped for silage and fed to steers below.

Sidney L.O. Area



PART III. ATTACHMENTS TO REPORT

Lists of Information Stations and Seasonal Offices.

Montana operates a Mobile office at Hardin, Montana, in the Billings local office area. This operates from April 1 through October 15th. Since this is close to the Crow and Cheyenne Indian Reservations the agency has it manned by an Indian interviewer. Occasionally he will take trips into the reservations.

Temporary farm offices are operated each year by the Great Falls local office. This is at Fort Benton in the heart of the grain country. Office space is rented during the seeding and soil preparation season in the spring usually through part of April and May. The office is set up again during the harvest from the latter part of July through the third week in August.

Special Studies.

No special studies were made during the 1969 season.

Bulletins and Promotional Materials.

Farm bulletins, farm letters, newspaper advertising, and promotional materials used during the 1969 season are included.

STATE OF MONTANA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION
P. O. BOX 1728 • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-2511

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FLATHEAD CHERRY HARVEST 1969

It is estimated that due to a very severe winter and poor pollinzation, the total cherry crop on Flathead Lake may not exceed 10% of a full crop. In breaking down the areas of severe winter kill, it appears that the area from Woods Bay to Yellow Bay will not exceed 10% of a maximum crop. From Yellow Bay south to Polson, 20% is the average. There may be some areas in the vicinity that will go a bit higher, but only in individual orchards. Pickers who have picked here in previous years should call their respective orchards for advice before coming here. Others can call or write the Montana State Employment Service, 427 First Avenue East, Kalispell, Phone 406-756-5071 or the Montana State Employment Service, Salish Hotel Building, Polson, Montana, Phone 406-883-2589.

Montana Farm Labor Bulletin

FARM PLACEMENT DIVISION
MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

U.C.C. Building — Helena, Montana
Phone 442-3260 — Ext. 540

June 4, 1969 Number 7

STATE SUMMARY: Main agricultural activities are fencing, irrigating, moving of livestock to summer range, spraying, summer fallowing, sugar beet thinning, general farm and ranch work. Weather has been seasonal with scattered rain showers. Transient movement slow.

Crop conditions change rapidly - Contact the nearest local office before leaving area.

WESTERN

ANACONDA: Main activities have been fencing, irrigating, and care of moving of livestock. Shortage of experienced log truck driver. No other shortage at this time.

BUTTE: Main activities are irrigation & fencing. Surplus of students - transient movement slow. Weather conditions - showers and frosty night in the higher elevations.

DILLON: Weather hot with rain showers. Main activities are lambing, fencing, irrigating. Short 4 sheepherders $225 p/mo B&R; 15 irrigators $225 to $250 p/mo B&R; 1 ranch couple $325 p/ mo.

HAMILTON: Main activities are ditch cleaning, fencing & irrigating. Weather season with few rain showers. Short 1 irrigator $175 p/mo no board and room. Orther labor supply balanced.

KALISPELL: Main activities are gen farm work and soil prep. Wages $1.50 to $2.00 p/hr. Labor supply meeting demand. Weather - cloudy.

POLSON: Weather hot & some rain. Seeding of potatoes still going on. Some irrigation due to extremely dry weather. Some cultivation in orchards. Labor supply meeting demand.

MISSOULA Weather warm and dry. Main activities are gen field work and irrigation. Summer ranges in good shape with movement of cattle and sheep virtually completed. Short 5 single farmhands - $200 per month, board and room.

HELENA: Irrigation main activity, short 3 irrigators - $9.00 p/da, B&R to $12.50 p/da B&R. A few fencing & gen ranch work jobs. No shortage in this job category. Pay from $7 p/da to $10 p/da. One woman cook needed at $7.00 per day.

SOUTH CENTRAL

BILLINGS: Activities are sugar beet thinning, irrigating, field spraying, completion of seeding and sheep shearing. Shortages are (5) farm couples with irrigation experience at $325-350 p/mo plus housing; (4) ranch couples at $300 p/mo plus housing; (1) single sheep herder at $225-250 p/mo B&R; (2) irrigators at $275-350 p/mo B&R; (3) tractor operators at $2.50 p/hr. Weather unsettled with scattered rain showers. Approx 1600 workers are thinning sugar beets. Overall completion of thinning is approx 20%.

BOZEMAN: Agri activities consist of spreading fertilizer, flood and sprinkler irrigation underway, fencing & working cattle before taking them to summer range. Short 4 qualified farm and ranch couples with salary of $325 to $400 p/mo depending on other benefits. Must be fully qual ified with modern power equipment for field work and must be able to work with cattle and flood irrigation. Year round openings. Short 2 single farm and ranch hands, fully qualified to operate modern equipment. Jobs permanent for right applicant, $225 to $300 p/mo. 2 experienced flood irrigators are needed from 1 to 3 month - $10 p/da to $300 p/mo plus B&R.

LIVINGSTON: Activities are fencing, irrigating, tractor driving and cattle movement. Irrigator shortage becoming acute as a shortage of water will exist in some areas much earlier than usual. Shortages are 7 irrigators, $250-$300 p/mo, 3 single ranch hands, $200 p/mo and 2 ranch couples $300-325 plus housing.

LEWISTOWN: Weather cool with scattered showers. Activities are summer fallowing, fencing & gen farm and ranch work. Short 3 irrigators, 1 farm & ranch couple, 2 cowboys and 6 gen farm and ranch workers. School is out and it is anticipated this will alleviate some shortages.

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NORTH CENTRAL

CUT BANK: Main activities are spraying, fencing, machine repair and branding. Weather warm and clear. Labor supply meeting demand.

GLASGOW: Main activities are all around farm work, fencing, branding, sheep shearing. Summer fallow to begin soon. Present supply meeting demand but could use someone experienced in irrigat - ing. Weather warm and dry. Wages $200-250 per month plus B&R.

GREAT FALLS: Most first summer fallowing operations completed. Little demand for tractor operators. Main activities are gen ranch work, fencing, irrigating and moving stock to summer range. Current demands are for farm couples and farm cooks. Short 5 farm couples at $350 per month with housing and utilities; 6 farm cooks, $200 p/mo B&R. With school dismissed the influx of school age workers into the agricultural field is expected to effect the demands for transient workers.

HAVRE: Activities are wind up of summer fallowing, first round, rock picking, fencing & branding. Weather warm and dry. Wages $10-12 p/da B&R. Couples $250-350 p/mo plus housing.

SHELBY: Weather cloudy and warmwith some rain. Farm activity slow with demand of workers meeting supply. Shearing crews expected into the area during week. Short 1 couple $300 plus house.

WOLF POINT: Varied activities include summer fallowing, spraying, irrigating. No labor shortage Occasional demand for regular hired workers that cannot be met by local student labor force or from in-immigration. Opening for farm couple $300 per month plus housing.

EASTERN:

GLENDIVE: Main activities: Tractor work and beet work. Weather warm and dry. Short: 4 single farm hands. Wages: $175 - $200 per month.

MILES CITY Major activities are thinning of sugar beets, summer fallowing, and gen farm and ranch work. Short 3 gen ranch hands $200 p/mo plus B&R. Rain showers have improved growing conditions, but more moisture is needed.

SIDNEY: Main activities are summer fallowing, beet cultivation, all spring planting is completed. Weather clear with warming trend. Short 6 single farm hands $200-300 per month B&R, 2 married couples $350-400 per month, housing furnished.

ATTENTION FARMERS AND RANCHERS:

The United States Immigration Service cautions that if you hire aliens who are illegally in the United States you may lose them when they are most needed. Aliens cannot work in the United States unless they are permanent residents and carry a greenish-blue laminated identification card, 3½" x 2½" which contains their name, entry data, photograph, etc. If you are in doubt, call the United States Immigration District Office in Helena, Montana 406-442-9040 or the nearest Border Patrol Station.

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MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

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EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION

1000 First Avenue South
Great Falls, Montana

Montana State
Employment Service

Unemployment
Insurance

Dear Sir:

Although a bumper hay crop is not predicted for this season, the demand for machine operators and bale stackers is anticipated to be near normal. The peak of demand for additional workers is expected during the latter part of June and the first week of August.

Here at your State Employment Service Office at 1000 First Avenue South, we are ready and willing to supply you with qualified help. In addition to a supply of experienced machine operators and custom hay stacking crews, our Youth Office also has a complete listing of semi-experienced youth who will be available for machine work and hand stacking.

If you anticipate the hiring of extra help for haying we urge you to contact our office as soon as your needs are known. Your order will receive immediate attention.

Very truly yours,

Bill Cady, Manager
Great Falls Local Office

by: Roy Young
Farm Representative

Telephone: 453-0351

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION

Montana State
Employment Service

1000 First Avenue South
Great Falls, Montana

Unemployment
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Although this letter may seem premature, I am sure that a number of you sheep producers will recall the problems encountered this last spring in getting taggers and shearers.

In order to estimate the number of crews that will be needed and approximate time that their services will be required, we would appreciate having you complete the questions listed below and returning to our office as soon as possible.

Approx. Tagging Time_____

Approx. Shearing Time_____

Number of Sheep_____

Name of Crew Last Year_____

In the event that shearers or taggers are made available in your community at a specified time, would you change your schedule for tagging or shearing? Yes_____ No_____

Your prompt response to this letter will assist the Employment Service in better serving you.

Sincerely yours,

Bill Cady, Manager
Great Falls Local Office

By: Roy O. Young
Farm Representative

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION

Montana State
Employment Service

1000 First Avenue South
Great Falls, Montana

Unemployment
Insurance

Dear Sir:

Once again the farming season has come to a close, although periodically calls will be received by you for help during the winter months for feeding and general ranching duties. We once again would like to take this opportunity to show our appreciation for your undivided attention in the placement of agricultural workers in your respective area.

We realize that at times when your own business commands your full attention, inquiries are made not only by transient labor, but also farmers and ranchers in your community. Although these people may not express any sentiments in regard to your efforts, I am sure that they appreciate any extra time that you expend in attempting to line them up with a suitable employer.

During the coming spring season, more efforts will be made to publicize the use of your business, not only for procuring farm help, but also the utilization of your respective services.

Again thanks for your past efforts and may the year of 1970 be a prosperous one for you.

Sincerely,

Bill Cady, Manager
Great Falls Local Office

By: Roy O. Young
Farm Representative

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION

Montana State
Employment Service

1000 First Avenue South
Great Falls, Montana

Unemployment
Insurance

According to our records, your haying operation this past year required the use of a custom stacking crew. In order to estimate the number of crews required and to facilitate the movement of these crews, we would appreciate your completing the enclosed card at your earliest convenience and return it to our Great Falls office.

Upon receipt of this information, contact will be made with your prior to the anticipated time by phone to verify the information submitted by you.

Sincerely,

Bill Cady, Manager
Great Falls Local Office

By: Roy O. Young
Farm Representative

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION

Sidney, Montana

Montana State
Employment Service

Unemployment
Insurance

Dear Grower:

Department of Labor Housing Regulations made effective on July 1, 1967, specify that all growers using and housing migrant labor must comply with the law. A copy of these regulations is enclosed so that you can know the specifications required to fit your crew and situation.

Particular attention should be given to garbage disposal, water supply, screening, and to toilet facilities. Your facilities will be inspected prior to the arrival of the 1970 labor as required by the new law. It also appears that inspections will be made by a Federal Inspector this spring.

Now is the time to fix up the labor house, usually a few dollars and few hours will make the place livable. A good rule of thumb would be, "Would you be satisfied living in the labor house and using the facilities that you now provide?" I'm sure most of you will have little difficulty in complying with these regulations, as some of the housing is excellent. For those of you with poor housing, we hope you will take this new regulation to heart and voluntarily comply or exceed the governement specifications.

Attached are two copies of the employer statement of housing and facilities, please complete and return one copy to this office in the enclosed addressed envelope so that we may approve and certify your housing.

Thank you for your cooperation. We wish to assist you and cooperate with you.

Sincerely,

Gene Severson, Manager
Sidney Local Office

STATE OF MONTANA

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION

Sidney, Montana

Montana State
Employment Service

Unemployment
Insurance

Dear Grower:

In February of this year we mailed you a copy of the Housing Regulations, a statement to complete and return, and a cover letter explaining your part. We have not received this statement from you as of this date.

We ask that you please fill out this form and return it to this office as soon as possible. The labor will be arriving in approximately 30 days for those who have certified housing. We do not wish to complicate your operation, but we do need your cooperation. The new regulations are very specific that all growers must comply. Labor supplies in Texas are getting short and our recruiters and Holly's recruiters cannot secure labor for anyone who fails to comply.

I urge you again, please check your housing, bring it up to standard and then fill out the employer statement and return it to the Montana State Employment Service in Sidney.

Sincerely,

Gene Severson, Manager
Sidney Local Office

Montana Farm Labor Bulletin

FARM PLACEMENT DIVISION
MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

U.C.C. Building — Helena, Montana
Phone 442-3260 — Ext. 540

August 27, 1969 Number 19

STATE SUMMARY: Weather very hot and very dry. Labor supply meeting demands. Current activities are fencing, summer fallowing, soil prep, irrigating, and general farm and ranch work. Small grain harvest is approximately 90% completed.

Crop conditions change rapidly - Contact the nearest local office before leaving area.

Western

ANACONDA: Main activity is the second cutting of alfalfa. Labor supply meeting demands. Weather has been hot and dry.

BUTTE:- Weather very dry. Workers and job openings very limited in this area.

DILLON:- Main activities are haying, grain harvesting, irrigating and herding. Weather extremely hot and very dry. Labor supply is meeting the demand at the present time.

HAMILTON:- Main activities are haying, combining, early potato picking, irrigating, strawberry picking and general farm work. Demand for farm help has tapered off with local supply adequate to take care of need. Weather has been extremely hot with no measurable precipitation.

HELENA:- Weather hot and dry, ideal for haying. Second cutting about 50% completed. Main need are harrow-bed operators, swather operators and irrigators. Some combine operators from time to time. Supply meeting demand.

KALISPELL: Main activities are grain harvest, hay harvest and irrigating. Wages $1.50 to $2.00 per hour. Labor supply meets demand. Weather extremely hot and dry.

MISSOULA: Weather hot and dry. Wind up of grain and hay harvest and irrigation, are the main activities. Labor supply meeting demands.

POLSON: Weather extremely hot and dry. Some haying and grain harvest going on. Irrigation to come to an end the first part of next week due to lack of water. Labor meeting demand at this time.

SOUTH CENTRAL

BILLINGS: Activities are grain harvest, irrigating, haying and straw baling, summer fallowing and start of bean threshing. Shortages are (2) farm couples at $350 per month plus housing; (1) single farmhand at $250 per month plus board and room; (8) harvest hands at $10-12 per day plus board and room. Weather hot and dry. GRAIN HARVEST: Winter wheat harvest in final stages of completion at 98%. Harvest progressing rapidly as ideal weather conditions prevail. No change in yields or averages since last week's report. No shortage of units as supply is meeting demands.

BOZEMAN: Agri activities consist of irrigation, second cuttingof hay and grain combining. Short (1) qualified farm and ranch couple with salary of $325 -$350 per month depending on other benefits. Must be fully qualified with modern power equipment for field work and must be able to work with cattle and flood irrigation. Year round openings, must furnish references. Short (1) married man to work on a dairy, milking, by pipeline machine. Wages $325 to start plus housing. Could use a man who has his own house trailer. GRAIN HARVEST Harvesting about 55% complete on winter wheat and barley. Several openings of short duration. Wages for grain truck drivers are $15 per day and combine operators are $20 per day plus board and room.

LIVINGSTON: Agri activities consist of flood irrigating, haying, fencing and summer fallowing. Grain harvest underway, but no help needed due to small acreage in the area. No shortages of labor at this time. Weather hot and dry.

LEWISTOWN: Main activities are harvesting, haying and summer fallowing, no shortages for harvest work. Short 2 farm and ranch hands, $250-$275 p/mo B&R and 1 cowboy, $275 p/mo B&R.

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NORTH CENTRAL

CUT BANK: Weather extremely hot and dry. Activities include haying, fencing and harvest. Harvest 25% completed with bumper crops reported in all areas of Glacier County. Short 2 combine operators at $20 p/da B&R, 3 truck drivers at $15 p/da B&R.

GLASGOW: Main activities are haying, summer fallowing, harvesting. Short of qualified general farmhands. Wages $225-250 p/mo B&R. Weather hot and dry. HARVEST - Harvest underway in nearly all of the area as recent hot weather hastened ripening. Shortof hands to drive combine and grain trucks. Most jobs involve both duties. Wages $12 to $20 p/da and room and board.

GREAT FALLS: Weather hot and dry. Main activities are grain harvesting, haying, irrigating and soil preparation. Demands have been for combine operators, truck drivers, haying equipment operators, hay hands and tractor operators. Wages $10 to $12 per day R&B forhay hands and tractor operators. $15 to $25 per day room and boardfor harvest hands. No shortage of men or machines. HARVEST - Fort Benton harvest approximately 90% over all complete. Great Falls area harvest 75% over all completed. Dutton and Brady area approx 40% over all completed. Most of custom cutters in above areas have moved north to Shelby, Havre and Cut Bank areas.

HAVRE: Harvesting, haying and stacking of bales are main activities. Weather extremely hot and dry. Short 3 hay stacking crews. Wages 6¢ bale plus room and board or $10-12 p/da B&R. HARVESTING of winter wheat approx 90% complete, spring wheat and barley getting well underway. Wages $15-18 for truck drivers p/da and $20-25 per day for combine operators. Surplus of custom cutters at present.

SHELBY: Main activities are harvest, summer fallowing and haying. Labor demand meeting supply at present. Weather hot and dry with electrical storm over area 8-24-69 starting several fires in the area, with one still burning and no estimate on damage. HARVEST is in full swing with shortage of men for custom cutters $1.50 to $1.75 p/hr room and board.

WOLF POINT: Spring wheat harvest underway in the southern parts of Roosevelt and expected to start in the Benrud and Mineral Bench areas by the end of the week. Shortage of harvest hands with local farmers and custom harvesters; wages generally $15-25 per day.

EASTERN

GLENDIVE: Weather continuing hot and dry, enabling harvest to be completed in this area. Main activities are haying and summer fallowing. Shortages of grain drivers and combine operators on crews moving up north to Wolf Point and Poplar areas. $2.00 per hour sickle time plus R&B No shortages in Glendive area.

MILES CITY: Major activities are summer fallowing and haying. Weather very hot and dry. Beet harvest is completed in this area. Shortage of four single farm and ranch hands, $200 p/mo B&R

SIDNEY: Harvest of small grains 95% complete. Small patches of unripe barley remaining to be combined. Most custom machines have left or are in the process of leaving ghe area. Yields were excellent, wheat yields reported as high as 45 bushel, barley as high as 80 bushels and oats yields as high as 100 bushels. Bean harvest began on Aug 19 withthe early beans being cut, combining should commence Aug 25th. Beet harvest shceduled to commence Sept 22nd. Short single farmhands at $12-15 p/da. Short couples $300 up p/mo. No machine shortages at this time.

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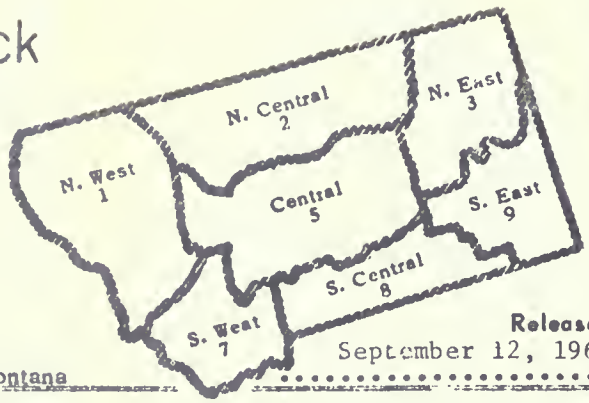
Montana Crop and Livestock Reporting Service

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Statistical Reporting Service
and
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Statistics



Released
September 12, 1969

Helena, Montana

CROP REPORT - SEPTEMBER 1, 1969

MONTANA

AUGUST--WARM AND DRY: Temperatures were warm and precipitation was below normal in all areas. Season was a little behind recent years but harvest made rapid progress. Yields for most crops are turning out better than earlier expectations, according to the Montana Crop and Livestock Reporting Service.

ALL WHEAT FORECAST INCREASED: Montana's 1969 all wheat production, estimated at 96,320,000 bushels, is one percent more than last months forecast. Hard spring wheat and durum wheat crops are yielding better than was expected earlier.

A 62,397,000 bushel winter wheat crop is estimated, 28 percent below last year. This is unchanged from last month. Indicated yield at 27 bushels per acre is the lowest since 1963. Hard spring wheat production at 26,525,000 bushels is 4 percent more than last month's estimate, but 16 percent below the 1968 output. Yield estimated at 25.0 bushels, up 1 bushel from last month, is a record high. This is 2.0 bushels over the previous high of 23.0 bushels per acre in 1962. The durum wheat estimate at 7,398,000 bushels is 4 percent more than the August forecast. A yield of 27.0 bushels per acre is the highest ever.

BARLEY AND OATS PROSPECTS IMPROVE: The barley crop is estimated at 66,520,000 bushels, an increase of 8 percent over last month's forecast. It is 56 percent larger than last years crop and would be the largest crop ever harvested. Yield at 40.0 bushels per acre is 3 bushels above last year and a record high. The oats forecast at 13,095,000 bushels is an increase of 80 percent over last year. Rye production is indicated at 175,000 bushels, unchanged from August 1. Flaxseed prospects are unchanged from August. Production is estimated at 180,000 bushels, almost three times the 1968 output.

RECORD SUGARBEET CROP EXPECTED: The sugarbeet crop is forecast at 1,206,000 tons, an increase of 6 percent from last month and a new high. Potatoes are forecast at 1,554,000 cwt., an increase of 4 percent from last year. Corn for grain is estimated at 420,000 bushels, an increase of 8 percent from August 1. Dry bean production is estimated at 153,000 bags.

LARGER HAY TONNAGE EXPECTED: Production of all hay at 3,799,000 tons is 4 percent more than last month's forecast and 6 percent larger than in 1968. Alfalfa hay is expected to total 2,394,000 tons, 6 percent above last year. Wild hay, estimated at 504,000 tons, is unchanged from August.

HONORED BY INDIANS — Robert Mullins, (left) is shown "whooping it up" for the benefit of Major General Allen Stanwix-Hay (back to camera) at the Indian Ceremonial held Monday night at the Tribal Building. Mullins was accorded the honor of dancing with the Assinibone-Sioux dancers in recognition of his services as manager of the Fort Peck Industries. He is escorted by Assiniboine Chief Wetsit of Wolf Point.

AT NATION'S CAPITOL — Miss Indian America, Thomasine Ruth Hill, formerly of Poplar, is pictured at a reception given in her honor at the U.S. Public Health Service's Indian Health Service in Washington D.C. During her visit to Washington Miss Indian America participated in the Inaugural Parade of President Nixon and remained afterward for a series of television appearances.

YOUNG DANCER moves about the floor at the Indian ceremonials held in honor of the dedication of the Fort Peck Industries rifle-repair plant on Monday night.

Courtesy
Poplar Standard

Photo Credits - Sidney Herald

Anybody want a pup? Rural youth still enjoy living on the farm and reap the advantages of the closeness to nature.

Montana Crop and Livestock Reporting Service

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Statistical Reporting Service
and
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Released
July 24, 1969

CALF CROP - 1969
MONTANA

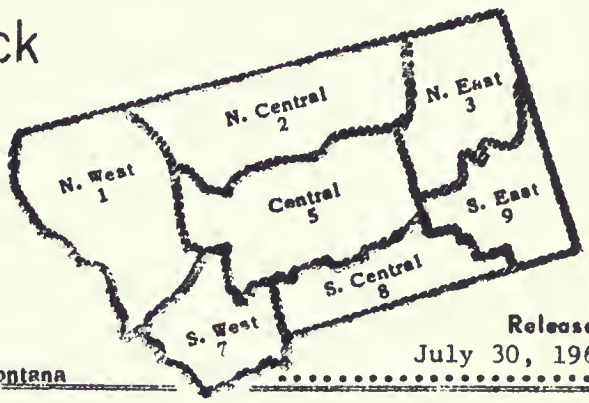
RECORD HIGH CALF CROP Montana's 1969 calf crop including both beef and dairy types, is estimated at 1,460,000 head according to the Montana Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. This is 2 percent more than in 1968 and is the largest of record.

Weather during the winter was severe. Temperatures were cold and there was a lot of snow which lasted until early April. Calving started late in February and progressed satisfactorily until it was completed late in May. Because of unfavorable weather, scours and pneumonia were troublesome and caused more deaths than normal. A late spring and cold temperatures retarded grass growth but condition of calves was generally good.

The number of calves born and to be born expressed as a percent of cows and heifers 2 years old and older on hand January 1, 1969 is 91 percent, same as a year earlier. These percentages are not strictly calving rates because the January 1 inventory of cows and heifers 2 years old and older does not include all heifers that gave birth to calves during the year and includes some cows that die or are slaughtered before calving.

Montana Crop and Livestock Reporting Service

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Statistical Reporting Service
and
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Statistics



Released
July 30, 1969
Helena, Montana

LAMB CROP - 1969
MONTANA

LAMB CROP SMALLEST ON RECORD The 1969 Lamb Crop (number docked or branded) continued to decline and established a new low number of 766,000 head according to the Montana Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. This is 7 percent below last year's total of 826,000 lambs.

LAMBING PERCENT DOWN The number of lambs saved as a percent of ewes one year and older on hand January 1 was 89, 6 percent below the 1968 average of 95. The severe storm of April 24-26 accounted for the considerably higher death loss than last year. Breeding ewes one year old and older on hand January 1, 1969 were estimated at 861,000; 9,000 below last year and also the smallest number on record.

Dear Sir:

In February you received a copy of the Federal Housing Regulations (in regard to migrant labor) and a letter asking you to comply with this law. In March a follow-up letter was sent stating that all growers must comply. To date we have not received a reply from you.

On May 7, we inspected your housing and condemned it as it stood. You were advised to have this housing improved to meet the requirements of the law. You agreed to make the changes so that we can in good conscience pass your housing.

We will again inspect the housing on Monday, May 26, and I trust it will pass. If in the event it does not, we have advised Holly Sugar that they cannot by law allow labor to live there.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact us at the Sidney Employment Office.

Sincerely,

Gene Severson, Manager
Sidney Local Office

Dear Mr.

On May 26, your migrant labor housing was re-inspected by a representative of the Department of Labor to see if it now meets the requirements of the Law.

I am happy to inform you that your housing is now o.k. for migrant labor residence, and we informed Holly Sugar on May 26, 1969, that they could provide labor and have them housed in the place you provide.

Thank you for your cooperation and immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Gene Severson, Manager
Sidney Local Office

cc: Jess C. Fletcher, Director

Photo Credits - Sidney Herald

Irrigation laterals must be buried near the cities to protect youngsters and to help beautify the area.

Novelty Farm Pictures
Courtesy Daily Missoulian
and Sidney Herald

the Ronan Pioneer

Vol. 60 Number 4 Thursday, March 27, 1969 10¢

Ronan, Lake Co., Mont. 59864 2nd Class Postage Pa at Ronan, Montana

MISS INDIAN AMERICA — Thomasine Hill, 21, of the Crow reservation in Montana was named Miss Indian America at the All American Indian Days at Shediran, Wyo., last summer, and this week visited the Flathead reservation. She falked Tuesday night to a joint meeting of the Ronan and Charlo Lions clubs at Allentown and Wednesday visited high schools throughout the valley.

Miss Hill is the 15th Miss Indian America. Her father is a Crow, her mother a Pawnee. She graduated from Poblar high school and has attended Eastern Montana college at Billings. She plans ti continue her education after this year. For tow years she worked as an advance publicist for the "Up with People" program, which is an effort to develop responsible leadership among the present generation throughout the world. During this time she spent many months in South America.

Migrant Workers School Program Educates Citizens For Tomorrow

By DONNIE BATTERSON
Sidney Herald Staffer

Rosa Torres is 10 years old. She has traveled from Texas to Oregon, to Montana to Michigan, to Florida and back to Texas, once a year ever since she was born, and last week for the first time, she rode an elevator. Rosa is part of the migrant workers' school program.

Three years ago, the federal government realized that by 1975 there would be no migrant workers. Machines would take the jobs in the fields and seven million unskilled, uneducated Americans would be out of work. Congress passed an act which formed a program to help with the education of the migrant workers' children. The purpose is not to turn out Rhoades scholars, but to help children like Rosa, so they will not be limited to the beet fields. These children some day will be able to work as clerks, truck drivers, cooks and the like.

There are nine such schools In Montana, Sidney's is the largest. Program Director Jim Owens handles approximately 170 children each day, but that fluctuates, depending on weather, etc. The children are bussed in each day and classes are from eight to three, six days a week. The school's facilities provide a hot dinner at noon, and a full time nurse.

The youngsters are remarkably healthy although occasionally one may suffer from malnutrition. There are few signs of neglect or mistreatment. Rosa is remarkably healthy and well-adjusted as are most of her companions. They are shy and pathetically eager to please. They are definitely not the mistaken stereo-typed impression, many people have of migrant worker's children. These clean, neatly dressed youngsters are polite and well-mannered.

In Texas, where Rosa makes her home, there are special schools for migrants with a six month school year, a six-day school week with a one day holiday for Christmas and Easter. The curriculum concentrates mainly on the three R's and the program tries to supplement this with more English

Continued On Page 2

Continued From Page 1

and some of the cultural extras, music, art and physical education. This year one new course has been added. Sidney is the first school to try Home Economics.

In the Home-Ec class, the teachers concentrate on the cooking of American food, hygiene, and good nutrition. It is possible that at age 13, Rosa will be married and even have a child. In Home-Ec she learns how to be a good homemaker so she need never worry about her children suffering from vitamin deficiency or malnutrition.

Swimming classes are also offered. A favorite with the children, this class has also proven to one of the most useful. Most of the youngsters have not had the opportunity to learn swimming because the proper facilities were not available to them.

Communication is the main problem the schools in the various states have to contend with. The children, especially the younger ones, do not know or do not use English. There are always a number of Spanish speaking teachers and aides in each school, but most of the migrants speak a curious mixture of Spanish and Indian. English is basic in every course. Not English in the pure sense, but an understanding of the language which will allow children like Rosa to read, write and communicate with others. She had a difficult time with the word "up." She learned it meant above, but then was told to look something "up" in her textbook and then to come "up" to the front of the class. Its no wonder she was confused. This is the working English she needs.

Day nurseries had to be organized. The average number of children per family is nine. Rosa has four older brothers but they, along with her parents, are in the fields all day, so she must look after her two baby sisters. The only way she and many of her friends can come to the school is to bring their small charges with them.

The greatest supporters of the program are the farmers and parents. The migrant workers, although they live by different standards, are American citizens. They are completely self-supporting, pay taxes and do not accept welfare. They have a right to education and are glad that their children are getting opportunities they missed.

The remarkable part of the program is the children; they are absolutely wonderful. As Director Jim Owens said, "This is not a job to me its an obligation."

These children are happy, and friendly. They are remarkably intelligent as their various progress records show. The youngsters pick up knowledge with amazing quickness.

The curriculum is naturally flexible and includes field trips to local art shows, concerts, supermarkets, butcher shops and restaurants. The whole purpose of the program is to acquaint this generation of young people with a way of life they can adapt and relate to as they learn to be useful citizens. Both Jim Owens and State Director Lorne Frazer agree there is little chance that the school will turn out professionals. It is not that sophisticated.

Jim Owens remarked "Perhaps only one or two will go on to college but at least more will finish high school and all will be better able to hold jobs other than field workers. We teach them English and give them a taste of music, art and literature. They know little or nothing in these areas, it can't hurt them as individuals. We know we are succeeding."

Apparently the program is successful. It has grown in the last three years and there are plans for further expansion. Next year the children's records will be sent from state to state, so a great deal of the hit and miss element of the program will be eliminated.

It would serve a double purpose. It would not only help the migrant workers learn American customs but would let local children learn about the migrant families and their way of life.

Each day Rosa becomes more and more indoctrinated in the American way of life yet she manages to keep her own culture intact. Lorne Frazer is extremely glad that none of the family bonds or respect the children feel for their people has been destroyed through the program.

The directors and teachers feel a personal satisfaction as they work with the young migrant students. Through their teaching efforts, all the "Rosa's" now have the opportunity to become educated, and productive citizens. These children, as a result of the migrant worker's school program, are no longer deprived of their basic education.

When Rosa grows up, she will have had the groundwork necessary to be as good a citizen as her incentive demands and the added bonus of retaining her natural heritage.

All because people like Program Director, Jim Owens, care enough to help provide educational opportunities for this most necessary segment of our society, the migrant workers.

Courtesy
Great Falls Tribune

PIECES FIT—After M-1 and M-2 carbines are disassembled and the parts completely renovated at the Fort Peck Tribal Industries' Poplar plant, workers, such as this woman, fit together the pieces in the jig-saw puzzle. (Kuglin Photos)

Only Tribal Members Employed

Plant's Payroll Has Impact

POPLAR — An M-1 carbine has 76 parts, and Artie Smith can tell you where each one goes.

Mrs. Smith, a member of the Fort Peck Assiniboine-Sioux Tribes, was on the welfare dole for six months before she was employed in the unique rifle repair plant in this extreme northeastern Montana community.

Like Mrs. Smith, about 75 per cent of the 118 employed in the plant, had been on welfare. Most had never held a full-time job.

The typical worker is 29, has an eighth-grade education and heads a household with three dependents.

Before the plant's payroll started to have an impact on the economies of Poplar and Wolf Point, 1,129 tribal members were receiving welfare payments totaling about $40,000. Payments are expected to dip to about $22,000 monthly to slightly more than 700 Indians.

Mrs. Smith, who received eight weeks of intensive training after she was hired, was on welfare "because there weren't many jobs in the area."

Iola Eder inspects the carbines as about 310 are packaged for shipment every day. She, too, had difficulty finding a job in the area and used to drive to Wolf Point for 10 years to work in a bar.

"I learn something every day," said Richard Porras Sr., also an inspector. Porras, who worked in California and as a "roughneck" in the Roosevelt County oil and gas fields, said the plant was needed to give training to his people who had never been off the reservation.

Only tribal members are employed. They get from $1.70 to more than $2 an hour, plus merit raises, vacations, holidays, life insurance and 10 cents an hour as a bonus for good attendance.

The rifle factory is owned by Fort Peck Tribal Industries, the Indians' own corporation, but Dynalectron Corp., Fort Worth, Tex., was hired to supply the technical know-how.

The first contract, with the Air Force, is for $706,904 to recondition 44,400 M-1 and M-2 carbines, with an option for an additional $350,000 in work.

The carbines, in use since World War II, are still the primary weapons used by the Air Force. Already the Poplar plant has shipped more than 5,000 of the like-new 30-caliber carbines back to Uncle Sam.

The arms arrive in batches of about 4,000. Some of them have literally been through the wars — the Vietnam or the Korean Armistice Line. Some have missing and obsolete parts and broken stocks.

The plant has 10,000 square feet of space. It used to be an Army armory and high school gymnasium.

Cohagen woman veteran pick-up man

This cowboy bit the dust too soon for Ann Secrest to perform her pick up duties at the Jaycees Bucking Horse Sale where Ann has ridden for five years with her husband, Walt, a 10-year veteran pick up man at the sale. Ann and Walt raise registered Quarterhorses, cattle and sheep at their 25,000-acre ranch near Cohagen and they make a unique pick up team as they ride to the rescue of cowboys who have managed to stay on bucking horses the required eight seconds. They have worked rodeos in North and South Dakota, Wyoming and Wisconsin as a pick up team and also produced rodeos with their own stock for a few years. Ann is assistant secretary of the Northwest Ranch Cowboys Assn. and is editor of "Piggin String," the NRCA's monthly magazine.

Courtesy
Miles City Star

Top hand + top horse = real treat

When Pat Chapman of Rapid City draws a bucking horse, violent things usually happen. And that is what occurred Thursday at the Rosebud County Fair where Chapman took top money for his rodeo efforts. Chapman didn't do too badly either when he drew Warsaw (shown above), to place for a split of second and third money at the Eastern Montana Fair. Chapman and a host of other cowboys competed again Friday afternoon for the second and final go-around of the two day event. — (Mark Kron Photo)

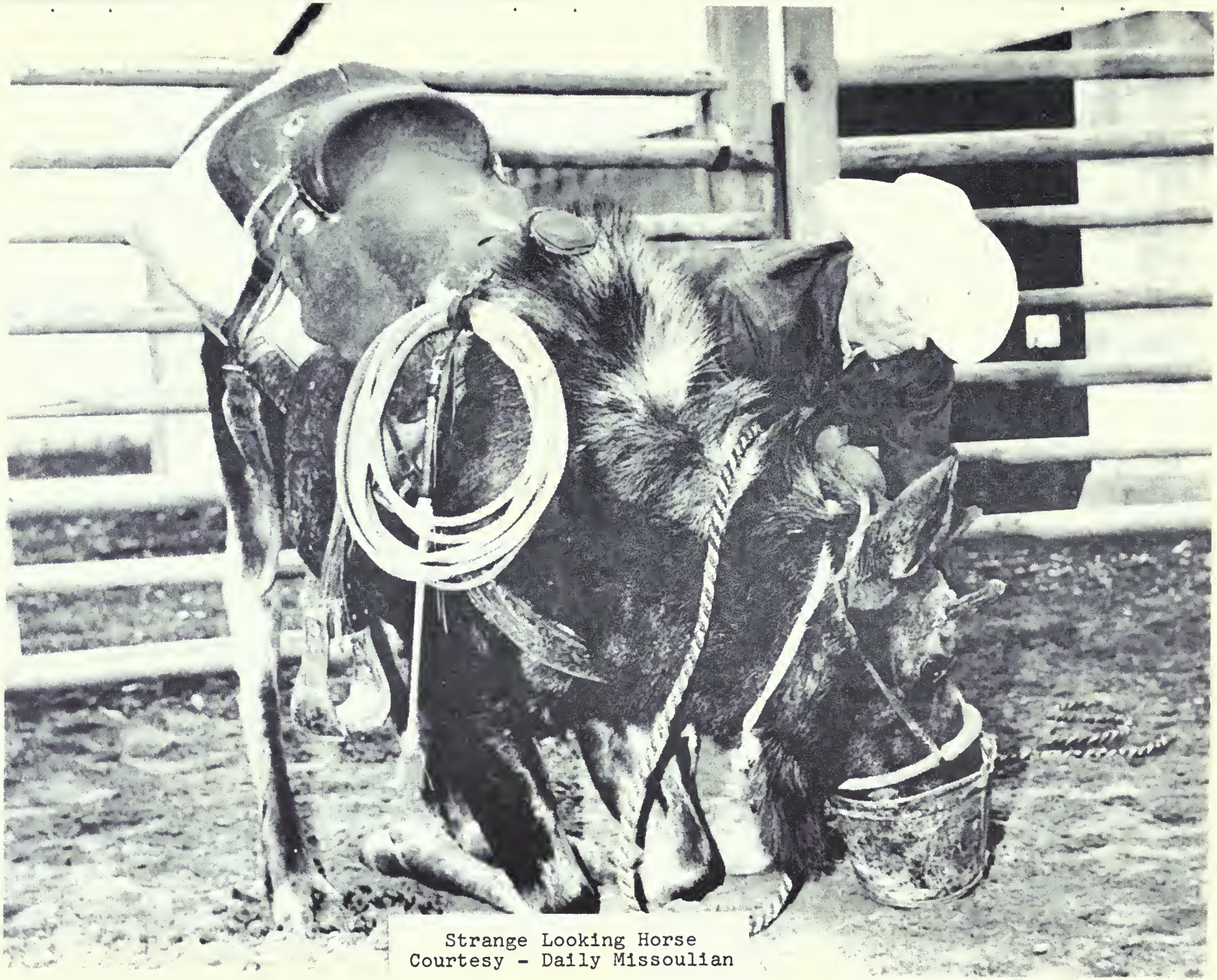
Little boy, big flower

Jack and the Beanstalk? No, it's Todd and the Sunflower. Todd, 5, is just checking to see if there might be a giant up there somewhere. Smiling down at him from about 12 feet up is a giant sunflower in the yard of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Kempf of 607 South Jordan.

Courtesy
Miles City Star

Sunflower seeds anyone?

Mrs. Matilda Garcia, 507 Mississippi, is more than a bit dwarfed by her 12-foot sunflower growing in the yard. The Garcias planted the flower in the early spring and the plant has not yet reached maturity. Although Mrs. Garcia isn't a big sunflower seed fan, she does say the plant makes a good conversation piece. (Mark Kron-Photo)



Strange Looking Horse
Courtesy - Daily Missoulian

By PAT GUDMUNDSON

School is for learning, and that's what 46 children of Mexican migrant workers are doing every day at the Kinsey school.

It's not all book learning, though. The learning process begins with some of the basic niceties such as showers and tooth-brushing, and also includes some of the other everyday essentials such as shoe-tying and eating with the proper utensils.

School classes are held, too, and deal mainly with language and arts. English is learned informally, through word puzzles, writing stories, and even with a tape recorder so that the children may hear their own voices. The children learn to tell time and memorize the days of the week.

The children, whose parents are working in the beet fields at Kinsey, are brought to the school by bus each morning by 8 a.m. They are divided into three age groups. The youngest child is not quite two and the oldest is 14. Because of the migrant status of their parents, many of them have not had adequate schooling for their age.

Courtesy
Miles City Star

Star Photos By Mark Kron

Kindergarten children of migrant workers enjoy the sandbox in the playground of the Kinsey schoolyard. Cynthia Vergine (right) supervises the younger children.

Photo Credits
Sidney Herald

"Time Out" Rural youth take time for hobbies and recreation.

Sidney L.O. Area

17-pound cantaloupe no optical illusion

Jerry Mies compares the size of a bowling ball with the 17-pound cantaloupe raised in Yellowstone Valley by John McElroy who annually comes up with melons which make basketballs look small. This one is not a rarity as McElroy has many of comparative sizes and says "it must be the soil and the water." He has no special growing rules. (Mark Kron photo)

Courtesy
Miles City Star

Umbrellas protect harvesters from hot Montana sun

Hugo Muggli, who operates his own harvesting operation, was busily combining on his leased acreage on the Ramey ranch Tuesday when this picture was taken. Wisely the harvesters were using umbrellas to shield them from a very hot sun during the work. The winter wheat harvested was expected to yield a bit more than 30 bushels to the acre. Wheat harvest is underway in all areas of Southeastern Montana under nearly perfect weather conditions. Ranchers report varying yields of 30-35 bushels per acre in areas which did not receive hail and 15-20 in those areas where hail fell but damage was less than 100 percent. — (Ginny Keller photo)

Yellowstone

CHRISTMAS TREEING is one of the seasonal industries in the Polson area. Still operating a tree yard at Polson — he's been at it since the early 1930s — is J. J. Thomas, who is a buyer for the Hofert Christmas Tree Co. Flathead trees are shipped to many parts of the world. (Courier photo)

Agriculture No Longer The Dominion of Males

FUTURE AGRICULTURALIST Janice Lovely of Wilsall hardly fits the stereotype of Levis and cowboy boots. She and 35 other young women are enrolled in agriculture courses at Montana State University, Bozeman. Thev're accepted as part of the scene now.

"I shocked a few people — like my high school principal — when I first made the decision!"

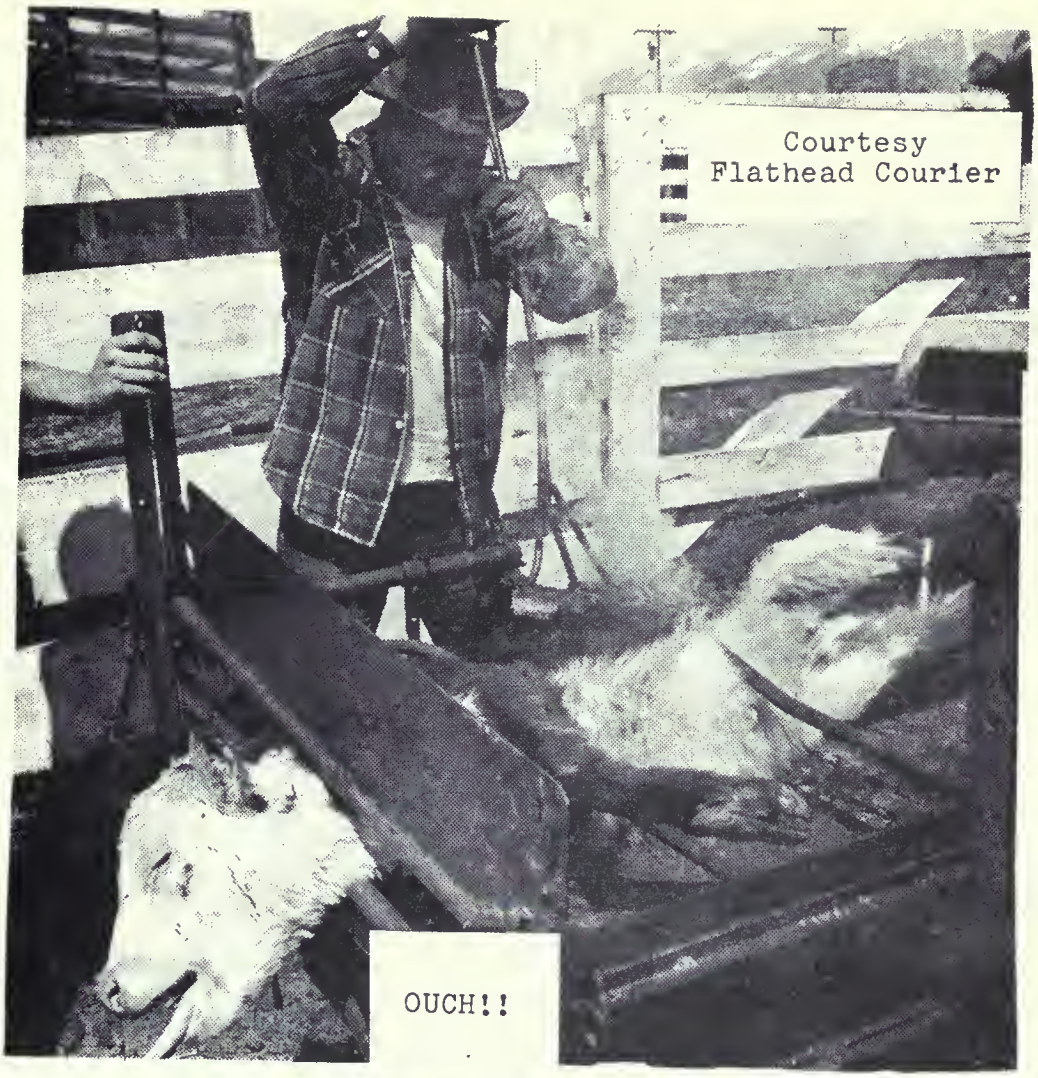
These are the words of blonde, 18-year-old Janice Lovely of Wilsall, who is one of many young women causing quite a stir in the academic world by choosing to enter a man's field of study. A freshman, she enrolled in the College of Agriculture at Montana State University, Bozeman last fall.

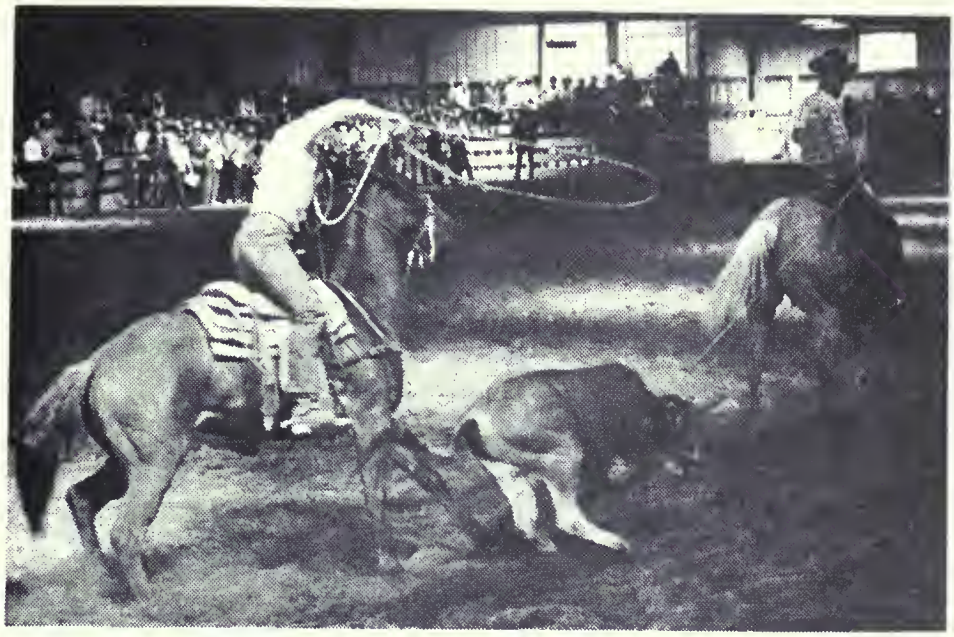
The doors have opened for women to most careers once considered 'for men only', and Janice believes in taking full advantage. She is fortunate to have the wholehearted approval of her family and friends. Even her high school principal, after the initial surprise wore off, gave his support, to the extent of helping Janice get a freshman scholarship at MSU.

Why did she choose this particular field? "It's very simpl. I'm interested in agriculture," Janice explains. "I was raised on a ranch and have always done my share of chores." Work in 4-H has been an important part of her life for the past nine years, and she is currently on the planning committee for the 1969 Montana 4-H Congress to be held on the Bozeman campus this summer.

"When the time came to decide what I should do after graduation, I started thinking seriously about agriculture," she said. "We contacted the Placement Office at MSU to see what the job outlook was for women graduating in ag. The report was: 'very bright.' That cinched it."

There are 13 girls in her freshman classes. Are they objects of any special attention from their male classmates or teachers? "No, they seem to accept us as part of the scene now."





HEAD 'EM AND HEEL 'EM was the name of the game in one of the events at the first Quarter Horse Show held under cover in Lake County. The winning header was a horse owned by Edgar Brown of Augusta. The winning healer was Hickory Jack, owned by Bob Schall of Arlee. (Larry Anderson photo)

Small U.S. Farm Falling Victim to Technology, Economics

EDITOR'S NOTE — With mechanized horsepower replacing the horse, mules giving way to machines, what's happening to the small farm? It may soon be a thing of the past, according to this comprehensive report on the dwindling number of farms, the whys and wherefores—and prospects for the future.

By Charles-Gene McDaniel
Associated Press Writer

Across the United States, abandoned houses and decaying barns stand in unkempt forests of grass and weeds as mute testaments to a disappearing way of American life—the small farm.

Once a hallowed mode of existence, the small farm has fallen victim to the combined blows of technology and the realities of present day economics.

Those who continue to try to make a go of it on a small farm represent, for the most part, an aging population unable to move, or those who lack training, if at a suitable age, to take some other kind of job.

Where once the farm was a place to be handed down from generation to generation, many parents now are encouraging their children to leave and create new futures in the professions.

"The average age is not too good," says one farm official. "When this crop of farmers dies off we are going to be in trouble."

But some small farms undoubtedly will survive. For to many who work on them and draw sustenance from them there is no other conceivable way of living.

Says dairyman Luther Brown, 49, of Marshall, Ill., "I can't see any other life. There's no more enjoyment than a person on a farm gets, whether he makes money or not. People are happier on the farm."

Be that as it may, the small farm, once the backbone of the American spirit, is going the way of Old MacDonald's mule.

For the improved efficiency brought about by improved farm machinery makes possible the operation of a big farm with the same equipment used to operate a small one.

But it takes money, lots of it, to equip a modern day farm properly. And it takes money, lots of it, to add acreage to a small farm in order to expand it to a size which will return an adequate income to support a farm family.

In 1925 there were 6,471,000 farms in the United States; in 1940 6,350,000, in 1950 5,648,000.

Today there are about 3,176,000, and the number is dwindling steadily. The government expects that there will be 2.1 million in 1980, and it is predicted that eventually only about a half-million farms will be needed to feed the nation.

The land, unlike the mule, is not being replaced, however. There's no substitute for it—at least yet. Small farms are disappearing as entities, being swallowed up by bigger farms or merged with other small ones to make bigger ones.

L.H. Simerl, a University of Illinois agricultural economist, estimates that in the future capital requirements for family farms will be $100,000 to $500,000—more money than the average farmer can save in a lifetime.

This would make it appear that the farm of the future will be a big factory-like operation with a hired labor force.

The operators of big farms say the economies of a big operation will be reflected in lower prices for food. But the small farmers say reduced competition and the necessity of paying hired workers more per hour than the present small farmer realizes will increase food costs.

Dr. Harold Guither of the University of Illinois made a study of 200 farmers who advertised farm sales to get rid of their land and equipment.

Ninety per cent of those giving up had grown up on farms and had no other occupation. Nearly three-quarters were tenants and another 12 per cent were part owners.

The average age was 50, but more than a third were over 60. About 60 per cent grossed less than $10,000 a year, and about the same percentage had not graduated from high school.

Economics was the most frequent reason cited for giving up. They were not satisfied with the return, or they were unable to renew leases because land ownership changed, or they were unable to get more land to expand their operation, because of the high price of land.

A large portion of the remaining small farmers must have outside employment or have wives who work. And on almost every farm, wives, sons and daughters help provide the labor in the fields and barns.

Operators of farms with sales of $5,000 to $10,000 in 1960 netted an average of $3,305, U.S. Department of Agriculture figures show. These farmers earned half again that amount from off-farm jobs.

By 1967, these same farmers netted $3,585 from their farms and the amount they were earning off the farm was slightly higher.

For smaller farms, the proportion of off-farm income was even greater. Farmers in the $2,500 to $5,000 net sales category netted $1,961 from farming in 1960 and earned an almost equal amount off the farm. In 1967, this group netted $2,019 from farming and more than double that amount off the farm—$4,119.

On farms with sales below $2,000 in 1960, the amount of off-farm income was more than triple the $850 earned on the farm, and by 1967 the amount earned off the farm was more than five times greater than the $1,018 farm profit.

Luther Brown is one of the many farmers who must supplement farm income with outside work. He is a full-time employe of the Penn Central Railroad but manages to operate a 28-cow dairy with the aid of his wife and two sons.

His day starts at 5:45 a.m. and ends near midnight. But, he says, "It's not work so much when you're doing something you like." He plans to expand his herd so he can give up his railroad job to do what he likes most—farming.

With modern equipment, one man today can operate a farm of 240 acres, or even larger, in the Corn Belt. Just a generation ago, 80 acres was as much as one man could handle.

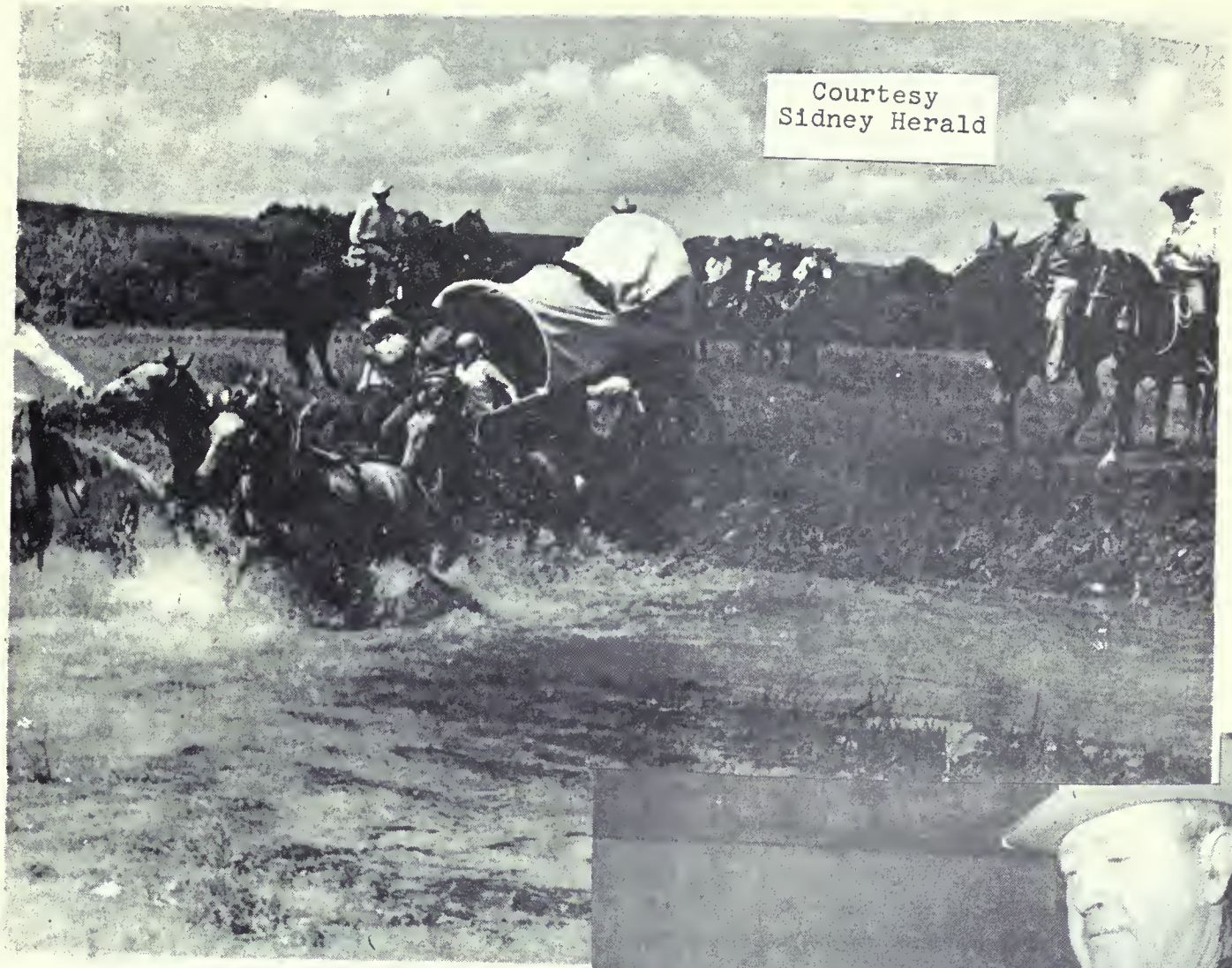
That 80 acres was farmed with a mule team and a plow, an investment of a few hundred dollars. Now it takes a tractor, which costs about $9,000, and a combine which costs $10,000—or more, and a plow costing $1,200 and a cultivator costing $1,000. All this and an array of other expensive equipment easily can bring a total equipment investment to more than $50,000 for an average size grain farm.

Recent statistics compiled by the University of Illinois show that a farm of 260 to 340 acres in northern Illinois requires a total investment of more than $240,000 in land, equipment and other essentials.

Forty years ago one man could produce 1,600 bushels of corn. Now he can produce 40,000 bushels on 400 acres.

Land prices, like other farm costs, have soared. Mississippi River Delta land in the South will bring $1,000 an acre. In the Corn Belt, land brings $400 to $800 an acre. In Kansas, land which sold for $30 an acre in 1940 now brings $150.

Generally, the closer to the city the higher the price because of rapid expansion of urban areas and consequent demand for land.



Courtesy
Sidney Herald

ROUGH CROSSING - Horses, drivers and wagon make a big splash during one of the creek crossings along the second annual Mon-Dak Old Fashioned July 4 wagon train trail. More than 300 horses, 13 wagons and 290 drivers and riders made the trek, which began at the Merlin Larson ranch and concluded with the parade Friday morning. Wally Sorensen served as wagon boss for the trip.

Courtesy
Polson Courier

THIS MOUNTAIN LION KITTEN was mounted on a snow cat seat last week at Carl's Union. Ed Barnum, Proctor, caught the kitten and is raising it as a pet. The little cat is about three months old according to Barnum, and is well behaved when there is no one around. When he takes him out in public he has a leather choke chain on for control. Barnum said the cat likes to ride in the car and makes a real fine "watch cat" at night.

SIDNEY BOSS OF YEAR - Gene Severson, right, was presented the Boss of the Year Award at the annual Jaycee Bosses Night Banquet held Thursday evening. Severson is manager of the State Employment Service office in Sidney. Presenting the award is Al Sobolik, who along with his brother, Eston, received the award last year.

Gene Severson 'Boss Of Year'

Gene Severson took home the honors of the Boss of the Year during the annual Jaycee awards banquet held at the Sidney Elks Thursday evening.

Severson is the head of the local State Employment Service and has given much of his time to various community activities. High on the list was his efforts towards the Fourth of July celebration. He also headed the unique Flags of Honor project for which Sidney received nationwide recognition.

Named as Outstanding Young Farmer was Dale Edam who owns more than a 1000 acre farm six miles west of Crane. Ben Nordell was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award. Nordell is involved with almost every organization in Sidney and has devoted most of his leisure time to community and church affairs.

For his faithful following of local and state government and love for his country, Sidney's Mayor Oscar Anderson received the Good Government award by the group. Gene Sayler was named as the Outstanding Educator for his ability to get along with his fellow workers and students and for his devotion to his teaching profession.

Guest speaker was Tom Saunders, FBI agent from Glasgow, who explained the work of his department and how local citizens can assist the program of the Bureau. Master of ceremonies was Ben Nordell and Roy Hagen was over-all chairman. Special guest was district Vice President Gorden Gaub of Glendive.

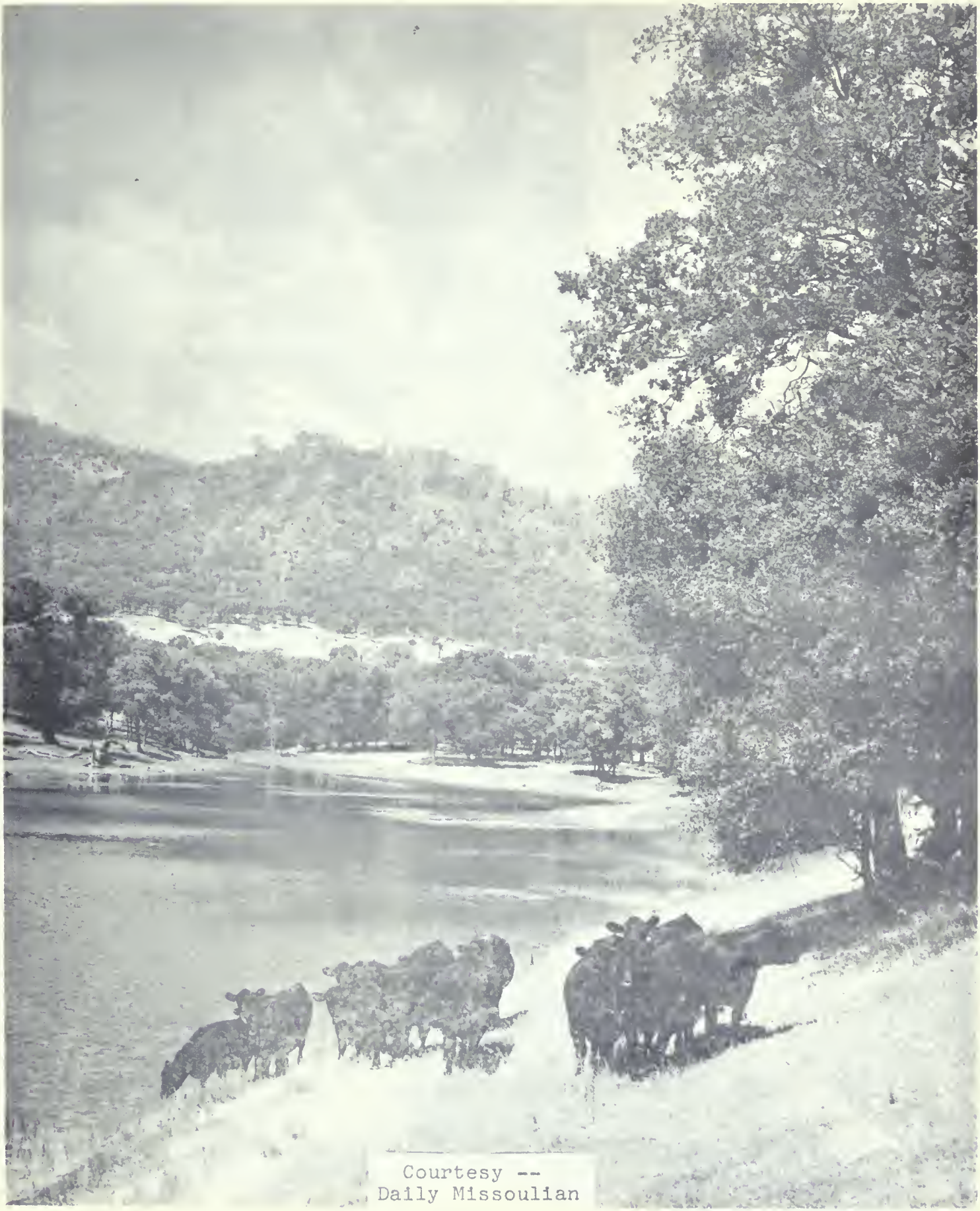
Proceeding the awarding of the plaques by the previous winners and the speaker, a steak dinner was enjoyed by the sizeable crowd of Jaycees and Sidney bosses who made this the largest group ever to attend the annual awards meeting.

Every Saturday Night?
Courtesy - Daily Missoulian

Ladies Enter The
Farm Labor Market
1904
Courtesy Ravallie Republican

Photo Credits
Sidney Herald

A new pair of boots, a week at the Fair, a pat on the back and Grand Champion lamb. Who could ask for more.



Courtesy --
Daily Missoulian

A Sweet-Sweet Cherry Picker
Courtesy -
Daily Missoulian

Sheepherder moving his flock in Bitterroot National Forest.
(U. S. Forest Service photo)

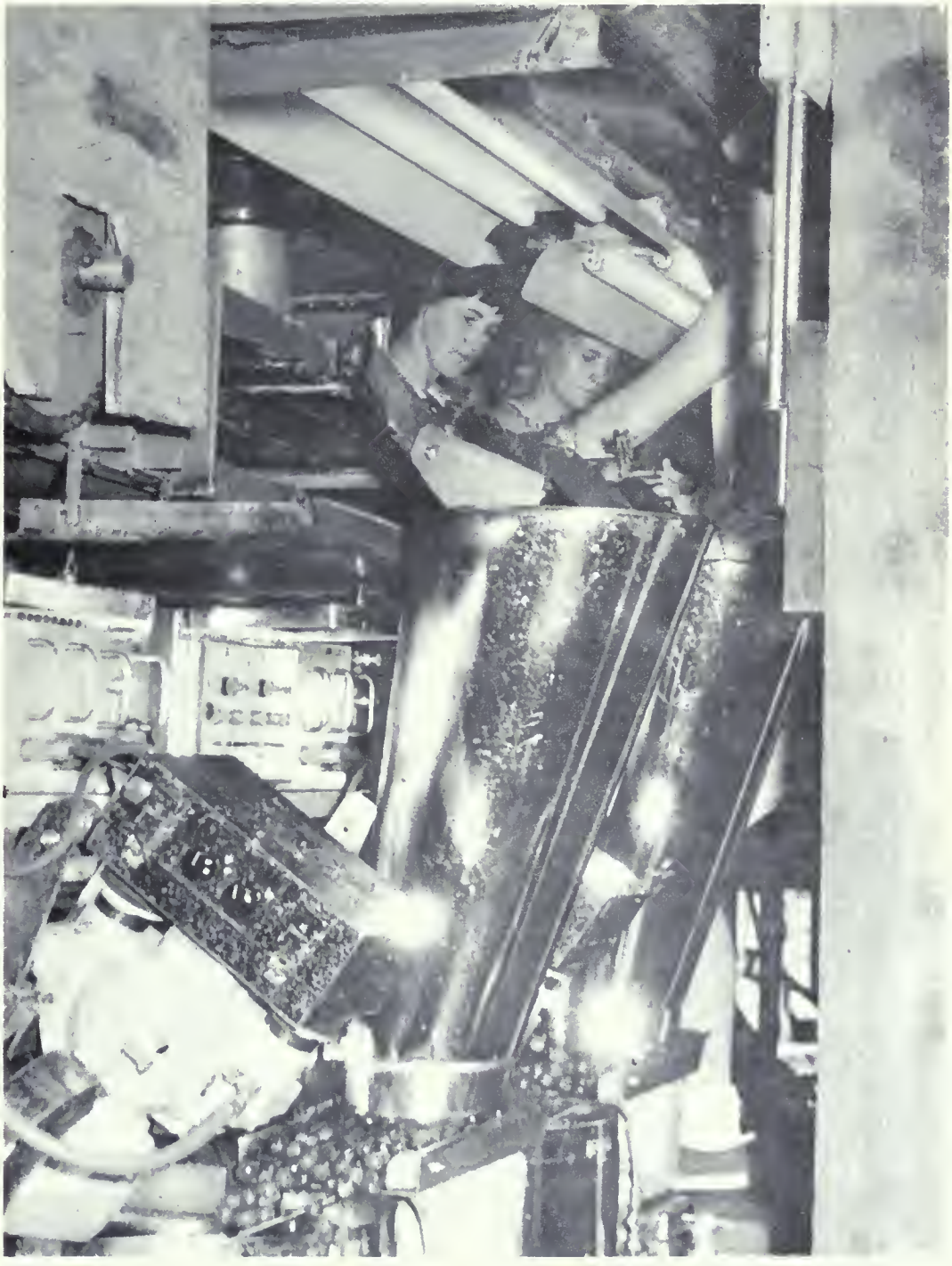
Sidney L.O. Area

Photo Credit - Sidney Herald

Shown above is a concrete ditch under construction. The ditch will be weed free, maintenance free for years to come.

Christmas Wreaths
Must Go Out Every Year
Courtesy - Daily Missoulian

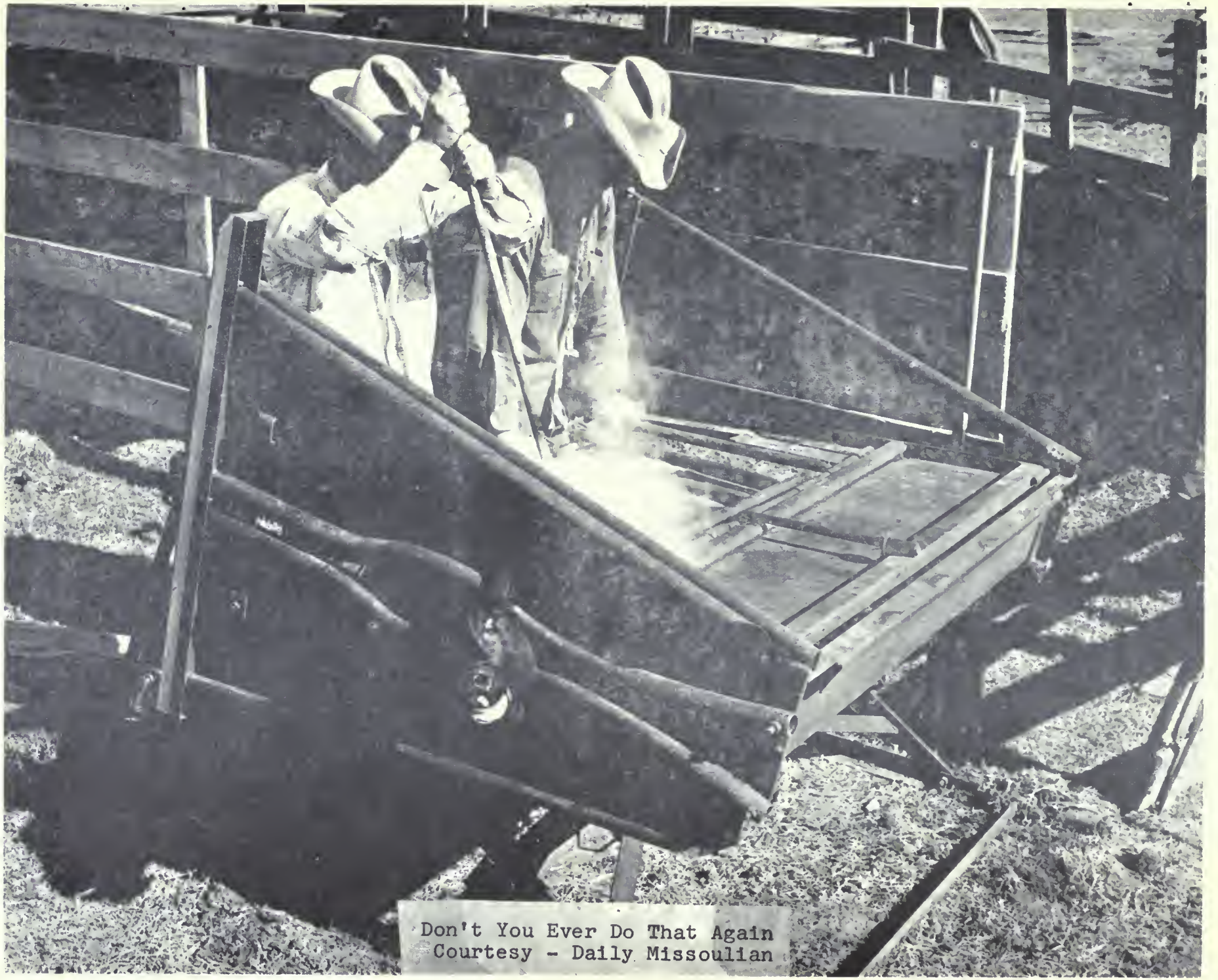
Woods Workers of 1903
Courtesy Ravalli Republican



Cannery Workers
Hamilton Area
Courtesy Ravalli Republican

Typical Montana Cattle Ranch
Courtesy
Daily Missoulian

At Least I'm Halter Broke
Courtesy - Daily Missoulian



Don't You Ever Do That Again
Courtesy - Daily Missoulian

Photo Credits
Sidney Herald

Sorting prior to winter feeding in Sidney L.O. area.

Photo Credits to Soil Conservation Service Richland County.

Contour strip cropping with grassed buffers seeded to native range grasses, presents more than just a pretty picture, the new system produces better yields, conserves moisture, is easier to farm and gives multiple use to the land. Also shown are shelter belts to protect farmsteads from adverse weather elements.

Sidney L.O. Area

Photo Credits
Sidney Herald

Beet Harvest - Sidney L.C. Area

Courtesy - U. S. Forest Service
And Daily Missoulian

A Custom Cutter
Of the 1890's
When Farm Labor Was in Flower
Courtesy Ravalli Republican

Farm Activity
Bozeman Local Office Area

ARCHAEOLOCICAL SITE 24HL101
THE WAHKPA CHU'CN BISON KILL
THE COULEE WITHIN THE ENCLOSURE WAS USED BY PRE-HISTORIC INDIANS AS A "BUFFALO JUMP" AND CAMPING PLACE ON MANY OCCASIONS DURING THE LAST 2000 YEARS. BISON WERE KILLED OR DISABLED BY BEING DRIVEN OVER THE BLUFFS. IN THE OLDEST PART OF THE SITE THE LIVING ANIMALS WERE KILLED BY PEOPLE USING SPEARS WITH STONE POINTS OF THE BESANT TYPE. IN THE LATER PORTION OF THE SITE THE ANIMALS THAT SURVIVED THE FALL WERE KILLED WITH ARROWS HAVING STONE POINTS OF THE TYPE IN USE FROM 400 A.D. TO 1000 A.D.
THE CAMPSITE PORTION OF THE SITE CONTAINS MANY FIRE HEARTHS, SOME BURIED UNDER 6 FEET OF DEPOSITS. BONE TOOLS, PIPES, SCRAPERS, KNIVES, POTTERY AND ORNAMENTS WERE RECOVERED.
THIS SITE IS OWNED BY HILL COUNTY.
UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY OR DIGGING IS PROHIBITED.

BUFFALO JUMP SIGN -- This attractive sign will soon be erected at "Buffalo Jump" archaeological site just west of Havre with the work being done by Hill County under the Title V program. The sign will be placed inside of the walkin gate at the top of the hill just north of the rifle range. The extremely valuable prehistoric site was recently fenced to protect it from vandals and it is hoped that it will be developed into a tourist attraction. Standing beside the sign to demonstrate its size is Emmett Stallcop, secretary of the Milk River Archaeological Society, the organization which developed the site. The sign is hand-painted by Vernon The Boy, 22, of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation and presently an art student at Northern Montana College. Work on the sign was also done under the Title V work experience and training program. Vernon The Boy is well versed on Indian lore. His grandfather, The Boy, was the last of the great chiefs of the Gros Ventre tribe and was keeper of the "sacred flat pipe." His great grandfather, Lame Bull, was also a Gros Ventre chief and pipe keeper and was a prominent historic figure before and during establishment of the Fort Belknap Reservation. Lame Bull was one of the chiefs in an Indian battle between the Gros Ventres and Sioux which was fought near Black Butte on the west side of Havre in the early 1870s. The Harmon Texaco Truck Stop now stands on this battlefield. According to the Indian version of the battle the Gros Ventres were the winners, chasing the Sioux all the way to the Bear Paw Mountains. The Havre area and the flats just west of town where the battle was fought was a favorite camping and hunting ground and the buffalo jump which is now an archaeological site is just a short distance to the northeast toward Milk River. The legend at the bottom of the sign reads: "This site is owned by Hill County. Unauthorized entry or digging is prohibited." (Staff photo by Vern McIntyre)

Livestock Labor Used
In Ancient Times
Courtesy Havre Daily News

COMMISSIONER AT CELEBRATION—Commissioner of Indian Affairs Robert L. Bennett attended the 16th annual Oil Discovery Celebration at Poplar Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 24-25. He was adopted into the tribes and given the name Medicine Crow on Sunday night.

The Commissioner is pictured here with 1968 Oil Celebration Princess Janet Youngman, her two attendants, and the Celebration Committee president. Left to right are Helen Daniels, attendant; Princess Janet; Commissioner Bennett; Linda Adams, attendant; and Sandra Coulter, president.

Peck Tribal Industries Report $ Million Backlog in Contracts

The Fort Peck Tribal Industries project of repairing rifles at Poplar presently has a backlog of firm contracts which involve in excess of one million dollars worth of work, according to William Youpee, president of the Ft. Peck Tribal Industries and chairman of the Ft. Peck Tribes. Youpee also estimated that the project, once underway, will provide employment for approximately 118 employees who will draw an annual payroll of half of one million dollars.

"The Executive Board of the Tribe has spent long hours developing this industrial program for the reservation," according to Youpee. "At last our efforts have been rewarded and the Assiniboine and Sioux tribes have an opportunity to demonstrate their intelligence and abilities and participate in the American dream," he said.

Youpee also stated that indications are that the program will be a success. Citing motivation of the individual through meaningful work as a powerful factor in providing security and success for persons on the reservation, he stated that the Ft. Peck rifle project "offers these elements to our people."

The remarks were made by Youpee during the visit of a Post award survey team at Poplar, which was sent to coordinate administrative procedures for the Department of Defense contract recently awarded to Ft. Peck Industries. The team included representatives from the Department of Defense and Warner Robbin Air Force Base in Georgia, which has contracted for work with Tribal Industries.

The contracting for work by the Air Force represents a "first" as the Air Force is now following a directive by the President of the United States to give preference to depressed areas and minority group firms in finding contractors for government work.

Courtesy
Poplar Standard and
Wolf Point Herald News

The Hand That Rocks The Cradle -
Courtesy - Daily Missoulian

Out Of The Hole

Up In The Air

Onto The Ground

And Away He Goes

A bull on the Palmer Norby farm southeast of Sidney spent some four days in a hole about 14 feet deep with a three by six foot opening at the top and a six by eight foot bottom. The bull was discovered in the hole early last week, but a means of getting him out didn't occur until Friday when Kallevig Construction carved a road down a steep slope to the hole and hoisted the animal to safety. The bull was fed for some time while in the hole.

— Photos by Kendall Kallevig

These sheep are dead — and the prairie to the west of this stockade on the Kingsley Ranch south of Ekalaka in Carter County was also strewn with the carcasses of a band of excellent young sheep the morning after the April 25-27 storm, which is estimated to have destroyed as much as 10% of the sheep in Carter County. This photo was taken on May 11 under a cloudless-sky. It is hard to imagine such a catastrophy being possible. The sheep shown belonged to Roy Cline and had been shorn a short time before the storm hit.

It Was A Killer Storm

By: Tom C. Taylor, Ekalaka Eagle

There are no official figures on losses incurred by Carter County livestock operators during the April 25-27, 1969, storm, but one county agent gave an offhand estimate of possibly 10 per cent. Statistics mean little to the individual operator, who has been badly crippled by its effect on him, and there is little doubt that some small operators will be out of the sheep business.

One banker is reported as stating that those who had loans for operating expense only would recover, but those who owed both for operations and stock were done.

There was no particular pattern of who got hit — losses ranged from a few newborn calves to entire bands of sheep. The late spring storm even claimed a few horses — those toughest of domesticated animals. Often a very short distance seemed to make the difference in whether bands of sheep in almost identical condition and circumstances survived or perished. It must be safe to say that there are no inexperienced and totally ignorant sheep ranchers today, as might have been responsible for a catastrophe in the days when all kinds of people with or without money flocked to the prairies during homestead times and in the years following to engage in all sorts of schemes both in and out of the livestock industry, practical and sometimes otherwise.

In most cases the ranchers read the signs correctly, but were simply powerless to do anything, or found that what they did was useless anyway.

Mrs. Harry Babb, Tie Creek ranch matron wrote this on April 25—"Yesterday spring gave way to a summer day of 80 degrees with a hot summer sun and today temperatures fell to a cool 30 degrees before a 40-mile an hour wind, which has now turned into a howling blizzard as darkness falls . . . .

"It began as rain, so the animals were soaking wet as the temperature fell. The ewes and lambs were gathered into the tree lot this morning and as the snow began to drift, the fence was opened to allow them to find what shelter they could here around the buildings. The ewes, bedraggled and wet, huddled together, but the lambs ran frantically about, looking for their mothers, and bleating loudly . . .

"As evening came on their final despairing blats were drowned in the howling blizzard . . . Now it is evident that this freakish blizzard is going to take its toll . . ."

And take a toll it did before it let up, two days later, after a low temperature of 15 above, was recorded at the Volunteer weather observation station at Ekalaka Sunday night, and with winds which one ex-Air Force crew chief-returned-to-ranching estimated at times reached 90 miles an hour.

Carter County did not get the snow apparently which was dumped on Powder River county, nor was damage to the rural electric cooperative lines serving the county very extensive, but in some places power and telephones were temporarily gone. That is another story in itself.

Carter County Assessor George S. (Stub) Askin has asked for written reports of livestock losses, but says they are slow in coming. He has however, gotten one reporting loss of 2800 ewes and yearlings, two more from the western portion of the county, across-country from Mrs. Babb's range in the eastern edge along the Little Missouri, of 600 head and 800 head of ewes from separate operators. Others have been unofficially verified.

Rudy Lovec, ASCS office manager, says he has the setup to make a comprehensive survey, but has no authority to do so unless officially requested. More optimistic reports on the overall loss mean nothing to those who have been hit, however.

EDITOR'S NOTE: We appreciate the above article by Tom C. Taylor, Editor of the Ekalaka Eagle. He was also the photographer of the picture above.

Courtesy
Daily Missoulian

Courtesy
Daily Missoulian